

# Maria Chavez-Hernandez “Libraries Change People’s Lives” Award

## *Purpose/Background:*

To recognize an employee of a library, library organization, or library association who created outstanding programs and services that provide resources and programming specific to any underserved, marginalized and/or immigrant populations and honor the memory of Dr. Chavez-Hernandez and to perpetuate the dynamic spirit of her work.

Nicaraguan native Dr. Chavez-Hernandez received her Ph.D. in Library Science and Information Studies from Florida State University in 1991 and was a librarian, educator, and advocate for information and library access for immigrant and underserved populations. She was responsible for a large body of work focusing on Library and Information Services in the Caribbean and the Americas providing many resources and programming on the specific library and information needs of underserved and/or Latin American immigrant populations and their families. Dr. Chavez-Hernandez was also an active member of Florida Library Association, American Library Association, Association of Library and Information Science Education (ALISE), National Education Association (NEA), and REFORMA (National Association to Promote Library Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking). Dr. Chavez-Hernandez passed away in 2008.

## *Eligibility:*

Nominee must:

- be an employee of a library, library organization, or library association in Florida.
- have been working actively for at least two years on the program and/or service that benefits a group such as: immigrants, people with disabilities, LGBTQIA+, incarcerated people and ex-offenders, adult new and non-readers, older adults, people of color, poor and homeless people, rural libraries, native libraries, tribal libraries, underserved youth, and bookmobile communities.

The nominator must be a current member of the Florida Library Association.

## *Criteria:*

The program and/or service will be evaluated by the following:

- Community impact
- Innovation and creativity
- Sustainability

Is the nominator a current Florida Library Association member? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Has the service or program been in place for at least two years? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Rubric: Maria Chavez-Hernandez “Libraries Change People’s Lives” Award**

Criteria	4	3	2	1
<b>Community Impact</b>	Program and/or service has a very positive impact on underserved, marginalized and/or immigrant populations and their families with two or more examples including: benefit statistics, feedback received, and/or the extent to which the program has helped to address a specific need in the community. Library testimonials and statistics are included.	Program and/or service has a positive impact on underserved, marginalized and/or immigrant populations and their families with one or more examples including: benefit statistics, feedback received, and/or the extent to which the program has helped to address a specific need in the community. Library testimonials and statistics are included.	Program and/or service has a slightly positive impact on underserved, marginalized and/or immigrant populations and their families with at least one example including: benefit statistics, feedback received, and/or the extent to which the program has helped to address a specific need in the community. Library testimonials and statistics are included.	Program and/or service does not have a positive impact on underserved, marginalized and/or immigrant populations and their families, or not enough information is provided to determine. Library testimonials and statistics are not included.
<b>Innovation and Creativity</b>	Program and/or service is exceptionally innovative and creative in its approach to serving the community with two or more examples including: the use of new technologies, the development of new partnerships, and/or the creation of new programs that address emerging needs in the community that serve underserved, marginalized and/or immigrant populations and their families.	Program and/or service is very innovative and creative in its approach to serving the community with one or more examples including: the use of new technologies, the development of new partnerships, and/or the creation of new programs that address emerging needs in the community that serve underserved, marginalized and/or immigrant populations and their families.	Program and/or service is slightly innovative and creative in its approach to serving the community with at least one example including: the use of new technologies, the development of new partnerships, and/or the creation of new programs that address emerging needs in the community that serve underserved, marginalized and/or	Program and/or service is not innovative or creative in its approach to serving the community, or not enough information is provided to determine.

			immigrant populations and their families.	
<b>Sustainability</b>	Exhibits long-lasting potential to continue to serve the underserved, marginalized and/or immigrant populations and their families considering factors such as secure funding, development of a strong volunteer base, creation of partnerships to help sustain program, maintenance, and potential future developments. Can be easily replicated for use in other locations.	Exhibits the potential to continue to serve the underserved, marginalized and/or immigrant populations and their families considering factors such as secure funding, development of a strong volunteer base, creation of partnerships to help sustain program, maintenance, and potential future developments May be replicated for use in other locations.	Exhibits some potential to continue to serve the underserved, marginalized and/or immigrant populations and their families considering factors such as maintenance, updates, and potential future developments. Cannot be replicated for use in other locations.	Program and/or service was not sustainable and cannot be replicated, or not enough information is provided to determine.

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