



NEWS RELEASE

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Davenport University to host Acts of Courage event

Featured speaker Jaime Martinez helps celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Oct. 18, 2011 – Davenport University is proud to sponsor “Acts of Courage” featuring Jaime Martinez, in partnership with the local Committee to Honor César E. Chávez, in celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month – a celebration of the independence of Latin American countries and their contributions in North America. A presentation by Jaime Martinez will take place at noon on Wednesday, Oct. 19, in the Sneden Center of Davenport University’s W.A Lettinga Campus. The event is free and open to the public.

The event will recognize and celebrate the contributions of César E. Chávez, Jaime Martinez and other committed activists on behalf of Latinos. The University anticipates more than 300 students, faculty, staff and community members to attend.

“Davenport is striving to be a leading example of a diverse and equitable organization,” said Dr. Rhae-Ann Booker, Executive Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. “This event goes hand in hand with our diversity initiatives and acknowledges the challenges faced and efforts made by people from historically marginalized groups.”

Jaime Martinez is the founder and board chair of the César E. Chávez Legacy and Education Foundation in San Antonio, Texas. Martinez has defined the rights of workers, marched for civil rights throughout America, and worked with community leaders such as Rev. Ralph Abernathy and Rosa Parks.

“The greater Grand Rapids area has enormous diversity and yet we still struggle to break down the racial, ethnic and economic barriers that separate us,” said Lupe Ramos-Montigny, Chairperson of the Committee to Honor César E. Chávez. “We can improve the quality of life for every West Michigan citizen by following the examples set by César E. Chávez. He serves as an inspiration not only to the Hispanic community but to all people who work to improve their communities by fighting discrimination, working for economic equality, and ensuring safe and fair working conditions.”

Davenport University is helping to improve Michigan communities through the works of the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. This event helps in the efforts to recognize the discrimination and

inequality that is still found in our society. Davenport is a leader in creating a diverse, fair and inclusive culture.

About Davenport University

Founded in 1866, Davenport is a private, non-profit university with campuses across Michigan and online courses serving an enrollment of more than 13,000 students. With tuition among the lowest of all private universities in the state, Davenport provides high academic quality, small class sizes, conveniently located campuses, faculty with real-world experience and more than 40 dynamic undergraduate and graduate programs addressing in-demand careers. More information is available at www.davenport.edu.

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