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**CONGRESO DE LATINOS UNIDOS TO HOST FIFTH ANNUAL  
GALA LATINA: *CHILLIN' IN CHILE***

**Gala Unites Latinos and Pays Tribute to Chilean Miners**

**PHILADELPHIA, February 28, 2011** – Congreso de Latinos Unidos, Inc. (Congreso), Philadelphia's leading non-profit organization that strengthens the Latino communities, announced today that it will host Gala Latina: *Chillin' In Chile*, the organization's fifth annual black tie gala on March 19, 2011 at the Hyatt at the Bellevue. This year's Gala will emphasize the beautiful vineyards of Chile with original wines, and food infused with Chilean flavors will help to celebrate the many unique aspects of Chilean culture.

“This year's Gala will celebrate the rich and beautiful culture of Chile, and will also pay tribute to the 33 Chilean miners whose resilient spirits kept them alive while trapped in a mine for two months,” said Congreso Event Chair Ken Trujillo. “We are also pleased to announce that Benjamin Leavenworth, Honorary Consul of Chile in Philadelphia will join the Gala this year as Honorary Event Chair.”

The Grand Ballroom at the Bellevue will be transformed into a lush Chilean vineyard with decadent purples and a grapevine motif throughout the room. Banners will recognize the diverse regions of Chile, and Las Brisas de Chile, a Chilean dance group, will perform traditional dances from the North, South, Central and Easter Island Regions. A nine-piece salsa dance band and a Latin DJ will help set the tone for an evening full of dancing.

To provide guests with background on the Chilean wines that will be served at the Gala, representatives from Wines of Chile, an organization committed to promoting the quality and image of Chilean wine throughout the world, will be present during cocktail hour to answer questions and educate Gala attendees on the wines they are drinking.

“The Gala is a wonderful opportunity for the Latino community, and those with an interest in the Latino community, to meet, network, and get a taste of Latino culture,” said newly appointed Congreso President, Cynthia Figueroa. “The Gala has grown tremendously in the past five years to become one of the most highly anticipated events of the year, and I look forward to continuing this wonderful tradition.”

The gala will be held on March 19, 2011, at the Park Hyatt Philadelphia at the Bellevue. The evening will begin with a dance lesson at 6:30 p.m. and a cocktail reception at seven o'clock. Dinner and dancing will immediately follow. For more information or to purchase tickets please contact Michelle Martinez at (215)763-8870 or visit [www.congreso.net](http://www.congreso.net).

**About Congreso de Latinos Unidos**

Congreso de Latinos Unidos is a nationally recognized, community-based, nonprofit organization that has been strengthening Latino communities in Philadelphia for over 30 years. Since its inception in 1977, Congreso has grown to be a leading provider of education, employment, and supportive services in Philadelphia neighborhoods. Congreso's goal is to alleviate poverty and promote economic self-sufficiency to ensure that our most vulnerable populations have the educational credentials and workforce skills to compete in a global economy. Congreso places the client at the center for all decisions and achieves its goals through strategic partnerships.

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