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**10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL VISTAS FILM FESTIVAL CALLS FOR FILMS BY OR ABOUT LATINOS**  
**Festival returns to Angelika Film Center in Dallas, Texas**

DALLAS\_ The Dallas-based Vistas Film Festival, which promotes great cinematic works by or about Latinos, has issued a "Call for Entries" to directors, producers, screenwriters and actors worldwide.

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual festival is set for Sept. 17 to 20, 2009 at the Angelika Film Center at Dallas' Mockingbird Station.

"Latinos in film are like rare, precious gems that we are carefully cultivating," said Elida DeLuna, Executive Director of the Elida & Herculano Hernandez Foundation, which produces the festival. "Through these wonderful films and documentaries, our stories are told. Our identities and dreams are validated."

Each year, the Vistas Film Festival draws some 2,800 film lovers to celebrate and relish in the talents of Latinos on the big screen. The 2009 event will feature about 40 exceptional films from throughout the United States and Latin America. Some of the submissions introduce the audience to emerging independent filmmakers and other entries come from prominent filmmakers.

DeLuna said the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Vistas Film Festival promises to be the most entertaining and interactive ever. For the first time, the audience attending the screenings will be asked to vote for their favorite films. A "V" statuette will be presented to the top films. Participants also can attend sessions such as "Coffee with a Director" and mingle with filmmakers at opening and closing night parties.

The submission form is available at [www.vistasfilmfestival.org](http://www.vistasfilmfestival.org). The Vistas Film Festival prides itself in being accessible to all promising filmmakers by not charging an entry fee to those submitting their work. To be selected, the film must be of high quality and must be by or about Latinos.

The Vistas Film Festival is the flagship program of the Herculano & Elida Hernandez Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit devoted to promoting Hispanic culture through arts and education. Vistas is the largest Hispanic film festival in North Texas. The foundation was started in 1996 by the Hon. Frank P. Hernandez, Esq., a civil rights attorney in Dallas for 39 years, the first Mexican-American judge in the history of Dallas County and the founder of the Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in 1971.