

UNITED STATES HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SELECTS FORT WORTH TO HOST 2026 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Fort Worth to welcome the nation's premier gathering of Hispanic entrepreneurs, innovators, and cultural leaders

WASHINGTON, D.C., Oct. 2, 2025 – Today the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC) proudly announced that Fort Worth has been selected as the host city for its 47th Annual National Conference, set to take place September 14-16, 2026 at the Fort Worth Convention Center. The announcement comes on the heels of USHCC's 46th Annual National Conference that took place last week in Atlanta, marking an exciting new chapter for the organization and its nationwide network.

The choice of Fort Worth highlights the city's rising role in North Texas and nationally for both business and culture in the state, offering a fitting backdrop for the nation's largest Hispanic business conference.

"We are thrilled to bring the USHCC National Conference to Fort Worth in 2026," said Jackie Puente, Vice President of External Affairs, Comcast, and Chairwoman, United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. "This city showcases the innovation, diversity, and economic impact of Hispanic-owned businesses nationwide. At Comcast, we are proud to support the USHCC's mission of opening doors and creating opportunities for our community to thrive."

"Fort Worth is proud to host the USHCC National Conference in 2026," said Ericka Garza, President & CEO, Fort Worth Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. "This event highlights our city's vibrant culture and the impact of Hispanic-owned businesses in driving economic growth."

The National Conference is the nation's largest gathering of Hispanic business leaders from across business, government and culture to spotlight innovation, entrepreneurship, workforce, and the future of small business growth. Attendees can expect keynote addresses, interactive workshops, procurement opportunities and supplier matchmaking, all designed to spark connections, expand opportunities, and accelerate growth for Hispanic and small businesses nationwide.

"We're excited to bring our longstanding national conference to Fort Worth, a city renowned as a pro-business powerhouse," said Ramiro Cavazos, President and Chief Executive Officer for the USHCC. "From its historic roots as the center of the cattle and ranching industry, to its role as a national hub for some of the country's largest corporations, cutting-edge startups, and thriving small businesses, Fort Worth continues to embody the spirit of enterprise and innovation."

This year's conference in Atlanta drew more than 1,200 attendees, including small business champions, corporate partners, and national policymakers. Highlights included the Plaza Mercado, which once again sold out as local vendors and small businesses showcased their products, and keynote appearances by distinguished voices from across the country, including U.S. Secretary of Labor Lori Chavez-DeRemer, actor and humanitarian Cheech Marin, and NASCAR driver Daniel Suárez.



In addition to conference programming, the USHCC celebrated the graduation of its fifth cohort of the <u>Avanzando Supplier Development Program</u>, presented in partnership with Blue Wave. More than 20 companies from 12 states completed the program this September, gaining critical tools to strengthen their competitiveness as suppliers. The program helps participants align with international compliance standards, build essential contracting documentation, and better position themselves as strategic partners in corporate supply chains.

The USHCC National Conference in Atlanta also marked the official launch of an exciting new partnership between the USHCC and Hispanic America 250, celebrating 250 years of shared history and friendship between the United States, Spain, and the broader Hispanic community. This partnership reflects a commitment to work jointly toward advancing strategic goals, fostering business collaboration, and promoting cultural and economic programs through regular engagement, shared initiatives, and mutual advocacy. The initiative was unveiled during the conference, highlighting a new era of cooperation designed to benefit both organizations and the international community.

With over 5 million Hispanic-owned businesses in the United States contributing more than \$800 billion to the national economy, supporting their growth is both a mission and a national priority. The National Conference creates a platform for Hispanic and small business owners to gain access to capital, mentorship, policy insights, and new partnerships that translate into measurable growth and impact.

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About the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

The United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce champions the growth and success of America's small businesses, with our mission focused on the more than 5 million Hispanic-owned businesses that contribute over \$4 trillion to the U.S. economy each year. We advocate for a network of more than 260 local chambers and business associations and proudly partner with over 100 major American corporations to empower and support small businesses nationwide. Programs, services and events of the USHCC are proudly available to all businesses.

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