



Dr. Juan Andrade, Jr.

Introduction

He is the most highly decorated Latino leader in the nation. He is only the 4th Latino in history to be honored by **both** the government of the United States and the government of Mexico. In 2001 he received the Presidential Citizens Medal from President Bill Clinton at the White House for “*the performance of exemplary deeds of service for the nation*” and “*for extraordinary accomplishments in promoting civic participation and leadership development*”. In 2011 he received the National Ohtli Award, the highest honor presented by the people and government of Mexico for distinguished service to the community in the United States.

He has earned more degrees than any leader of a major national organization. His degrees include a BA from Howard Payne University, a MEd from Antioch College, an EdS and EdD from Northern Illinois University, and a post-doctorate MA from Loyola University Chicago.

He has received five honorary doctorates and been recognized as a distinguished alumnus by Howard Payne University, Northern Illinois University, and Loyola University Chicago.

He has been recognized four times as one of the 100 Most Influential Hispanics in America. He was inducted into the “*Society of Life Models*” by OMNI Youth Services for the impact of his work on high school and college students. In 2011 he also received the *Medallion for Leadership* from the Hispanic Heritage Foundation, the highest honor in the nation presented by Hispanics to a Hispanic.

Background: Past and Present

He was a political commentator on ABC-7 television for six years in Chicago and WGN radio, and a columnist for the *Chicago Sun-Times*, the only Latino commentator in the nation appearing on English language radio or television and the only national leader featured in a major publication as a regular weekly columnist.

He has worked and participated in the democratization of Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama, Colombia, Paraguay, Bolivia, Guyana, Suriname and Haiti.

As a boy he sold newspapers and worked in restaurants washing dishes, pots and pans. As a farm worker he picked cotton and hoed weeds in cabbage, watermelon, cantaloupe, peanut and cotton fields. As a high school and college student he worked in factories and meatpacking plants.

Originally from Brownwood, Texas, he has received numerous awards for distinguished service and lifetime achievement.

He is the President of the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute: USHLI has registered **2.2 million** voters, published **425** studies on Latino demographics, trained over **400,000** present/future leaders, awarded over **\$1.2 million** in scholarships and internships, and sponsors the largest Latino leadership conference in the nation. USHLI is a member of the HACR & NHLA Board of Directors.
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