For Immediate Release

Author, journalist and prominent Mexican peace activist Lydia Cacho will visit Santa Fe this July. She will keynote a presentation at the Center for Contemporary Arts on July 11, 6-8 PM. Lydia will welcome press availabilities and meetings with potential allies in New Mexico while she is in town on July 10 and/or July 12.

The Center for Contemporary Arts/Santa Fe and the Angelica Foundation announce the upcoming visit of Lydia Cacho, the iconoclastic Mexican journalist, peace activist and feminist advocate for women and children. Cacho was once described by Amnesty International as Mexico’s most famous investigative journalist, and she has recently capped her extraordinary career with a documentary project called Somos Valientes (We Are Brave). In this new phase of her work, Lydia seeks a positive and hopeful narrative for Mexican society, one that addresses the pervasive and traumatic violence of the moment while building a path to peace for the next generations.

Somos Valientes  https://somosvalientes.mx/SomosValientes.html
In this series of online episodes, Lydia interviews and works with classrooms of children born and raised in Mexico’s most violent communities. The series presents the stories of children who have had to find their own bravery and moral clarity in communities where the Mexican drug war rages, where families are under threat and children are both victims of, and recruiting targets for organized crime. The documentary series and web platform launched this past June, in a ground-breaking Facebook livestreaming ten-hour event. It was viewed by over one million Mexicans, and was endorsed on camera by many of Mexico’s most famous progressive celebrities, cultural figures and opinion leaders. The cause of protecting Mexico’s children has been elevated as the violence has spread in Mexico, this past year having registered as the country’s most violent year yet. The platform will disseminate a peace curriculum for Mexican schools, spreading the cause of the rights of Mexican children across civil society.

Lydia Cacho in Santa Fe
Lydia will keynote a presentation at the Tank Garage at the Center for Contemporary Arts in Santa Fe on July 11, 2018. She will be joined later on a panel with her documentary collaborator, the journalist Marcela Zendejas de la Vega who will talk about the project as well as the rising new wave in Mexican feminism. The panel will be moderated by Suzanne Gollin of the Angelica Foundation, and introduced by Stuart Ashman of CCA. The event will serve as the US launch of Somos Valientes, which the team hopes will reach north beyond Mexico, eventually to be rolled out in schools and Spanish speaking migrant communities throughout this country as well.

Mexican children and the humanitarian crisis on the southern border
Lydia arrives in New Mexico at a critical moment, when US immigration policy changes have caused the forced separation of families who have come from Mexico and Central America to seek asylum in the US. Children of all ages are being isolated, detained and re-traumatized. While protest movements have been rising throughout the country, the push factors that caused the dangerous migration of those families have been less clear to those of us who live on the northern side of the border. Lydia Cacho would like to connect with potential allies from organizations in New Mexico to dialogue about the trans-border crisis specifically, the rights of Mexican and migrating children generally, and what we can do to protect and heal all children in these violent and volatile times.

Press availability
Lydia Cacho, CCA and the Angelica Foundation invite media availabilities on July 10 and/or July 12. Please contact Center for Contemporary Arts. 505.982.1338. CCA is located at 1050 Old Pecos Trail Santa Fe, NM 87505. Organizations wishing to connect generally with Lydia and/or support Somos Valientes should contact Suzanne Gollin, Angelica Foundation: suzanne@angelicafoundation.org
Lydia Cacho- Abbreviated Biography

Lydia Cacho is a Mexican journalist, feminist, and human rights activist. Described by Amnesty International as "perhaps Mexico's most famous investigative journalist and women's rights advocate", Cacho's reporting focuses on violence against and sexual abuse of women and children.[1] Cacho is the winner of numerous international awards for her journalism, including the Civil Courage Prize, the Wallenberg Medal, and the Olof Palme Prize. In 2010, she was named a World Press Freedom Hero of the International Press Institute.

In 2007, Lydia Cacho received the Amnesty International Ginetta Sagan Award for Women and Children's Rights,[12] the IWMF (International Women's Media Foundation) Courage in Journalism Award,[13] and the Oxfam Novib/PEN Award.[14] The following year, she received the UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize.[11]

In 2009, Cacho was awarded the Wallenberg Medal from the University of Michigan for her work to bring public attention to the corruption that shields criminals who exploit women and children.[15] Cacho was a recipient of the PEN/Pinter Prize as an International Writer of Courage in 2010, which goes to writers persecuted for their beliefs. [16] She was also named a World Press Freedom Hero of the International Press Institute.[1][16]

A year later, Cacho received The International Hrant Dink Award, [17] presented to people who work for a world free of discrimination, racism and violence, take personal risks for their ideals, use the language of peace and by doing so, inspire and encourage others.[15] She also won the Civil Courage Prize of The Train Foundation, which she shared with Triveni Acharya for efforts against "sex trafficking, domestic violence and child pornography",[18] and the Olof Palme Prize together with Roberto Saviano.[21]

As of 2018, Lydia Cacho has written twelve books, ranging from poetry to fiction, and including a Manual to prevent child abuse, essays on gender issues and love, and her international best sellers about Sex trafficking, Human Slavery and the relationship between child pornography and child sexual abuse like Slavery Inc.: The Untold Story of International Sex Trafficking,[22] published in the U.K. Her books have been translated into French, English, Dutch, Portuguese, Italian, German, Croatian, Swedish, and Turkish.

- 2003, Muérdete al corazón / Bite the heart , DEMAC, Spanish, ASIN B01FE0IYJK
- 2007, Esta boca es mía... y tuya también / This mouth is mine... and Yours too , Planeta Mexicana, Spanish, ISBN 978-97-037-0676-1
- 2009, Con mi hij@ NO / With my child NO , Debolsillo , Spanish, ISBN 978-60-742-9086-8
- 2013, El silencio es nuestro / The silence is ours , Artes de México y del Mundo, Spanish, ISBN 978-60-746-1138-0
- 2017, Ciberespías al rescate: en busca de Sam / Cyberspies to the rescue: In search of Sam , Spanish, ASIN B076DNC2XB