

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Colleen Briner, Executive Director
3939 O'Hara Street, 310 LRDC
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
412.624.6190 | IFL@pitt.edu

Maria Hinojosa, Opening Keynote Speaker, IFL's 2018 National Conference
Coherence, Continuous Improvement, & Agency, May 8 – 11, 2018

Pittsburgh, PA — Maria Hinojosa, host of *Latino USA*, will be the opening keynote speaker for the Institute for Learning's national conference, May 8 – 11, 2018. Ms. Hinojosa's talk, "From Invisible to Visible" will be at 7:00 P.M. on May 8th, 2018. The 2018 conference—Coherence, Continuous Improvement, & Agency: Building Better Systems to Support Diverse Learners—will be held at the Hotel Monaco, 620 William Penn Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15219. Registration information can be found at pi.tt/IFLConf18 or at the IFL's website, IFL.pitt.edu.

Maria Hinojosa, an award-winning journalist, has worked for 25 years to help bring untold stories from America and across the world to the attention of the public. She has dedicated her career to bring a voice to the voiceless. She is currently the anchor and executive producer of NPR's *Latino USA* and the anchor of *Maria Hinojosa: One-on-One* from WGBH/La Plaza. In 2010, she founded the Futuro Media Group (FMG) based in Harlem, NY, to tell stories not regularly told through diverse perspectives.

The following describes Ms. Hinojosa's keynote:

No survey or report can articulate the impact of not being visible might have on someone. What's happening today is that the demographics are so impressive and changing so much that this isn't about making a community feel visible; this is about the whole United States kind of waking up and looking at who we are with clear glasses, and understanding that it really has become an urgent conversation. There's a void where we are not having a smart, engaging conversation about who we really are, and in that void, it's become a highly politicized conversation. On the positive side, that it is making us all look at ourselves and ask, "Who are we and who do we want to be?" And that is a much more profound, complex, and deeper question and issue than how to make communities "feel visible." This is a moment in history when we all need to understand and be a part of this conversation.

The 2018 IFL national conference will engage educational leaders from across the country in conversations built around the coherence needed in systems to bring about school improvement for a diverse student population, which includes a focus on the development of student and teacher agency. The IFL will provide opportunities for educators to engage in sessions to thoughtfully examine how districts identify problems of practice and implement and refine solutions that consider and benefit every student and the rich experiences they bring with them into the classroom.

The Institute for Learning (IFL) is an outreach of the University of Pittsburgh's Learning Research and Development Center (LRDC). Comprised of scholar practitioners, the IFL helps educators bring what research tells us about teaching and learning into classrooms to help students grow their intelligence and reach the high standards demanded by today's colleges and workforce. We believe—and research confirms—that virtually all students are capable of high achievement, if they work hard at the right kinds of learning tasks.

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