

# Latin Chamber of Commerce honors MGM Mirage Executive Debra Nelson



LAS VEGAS—The Las Vegas Latin Chamber of Commerce presented MGM MIRAGE Vice President of Diversity and Community Affairs Debra Nelson with its "Professional Services" award during its 27th Annual Awards Banquet held Oct. 10 at Paris Las Vegas.

The "Professional Services" award is given each year to an individual who has consistently demonstrated responsible and ethical practices in their profession, and an understanding and contribution to the needs of the community. Nelson was one of 14 individuals and businesses honored during the event.

"This honor is very fitting, because Debra demonstrates a passionate pursuit of excellence to the practice of diversity and dedication in her role at MGM MIRAGE," said Phyllis James, MGM MIRAGE Senior Vice President, Senior Counsel and Chief Diversity Officer.

"Our observation is that Debra consistently demonstrates the highest professional standards and commitment to excellence," said Otto Merida, President and CEO of the Latin Chamber of Commerce, "She has raised the bar in corporate environments and at the community level where she devotes significant time and energy to help improve the quality of life for others."

Nelson, who has worked at MGM MIRAGE since 2005, previously held positions related to diversity management and communications at DaimlerChrysler, the Chrysler Group, and Mercedes-Benz USA. For her contributions at Mercedes-Benz USA, and at Mercedes-Benz U.S. International where she helped introduce the company and its new product to a global market, automotive journalists named her "Woman of the Year" for impacting diversity within the industry.

Additionally, she has held appointments in higher education and broadcast media.

Her substantial board service in the Las Vegas community includes College of Southern Nevada (CSN) Foundation, Boys and Girls Club of Nevada, Nevada HAND, Las Vegas Clark County Urban League, Urban Chamber of Commerce and KB Home Community Advisory Board.

She is a founding board member of the Chief Diversity Officers Roundtable established in 2006 at Cornell University. Comprised of senior diversity officers representing America's Fortune 500 companies, the roundtable promotes the practice of diversity within corporate America.

In Nevada, she alone founded the Diversity Professionals Network as a platform for diversity professionals to network, share best practices, and to explore ways to enhance the stature of the diversity profession. In 2007, she was the catalyst for Las Vegas' inaugural Women of Color Conference, which has since become an annual event attracting hundreds of participants and garnering local and national news coverage. She was named one of Southern Nevada's "2008 Women to Watch" by In Business Las Vegas, a weekly business publication.

Nelson has contributed greatly to the MGM MIRAGE Diversity Initiative, for which the company has been named to many national lists in recognition of its diversity best practices. The company was recognized by Black Enterprise magazine as one of the "Top 40 Companies for Diversity", named one of the "50 Best Companies for Latinas" by LATINA Style Magazine, and ranked among the "Top 50 Companies for Diversity" by DiversityInc magazine.

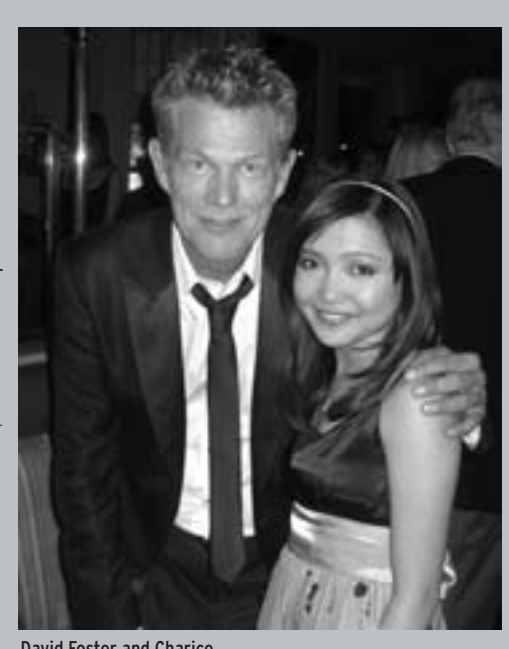
MGM MIRAGE has been a corporate member of the Latin Chamber of Commerce since 1995, and has been a sponsor of this chamber's Annual Awards Gala since 2005.

# David Foster to Search for his next Vocal Superstar through American Talent Search

LOS ANGELES - The ultimate Hitman, David Foster is embarking on a quest to find his next vocal superstar, in conjunction with the 2009 North American *Hitman, David Foster & Friends Tour*. The 15-time Grammy Award Winner, Emmy winning songwriter / producer and three time Oscar nominee has partnered with namedrop.com to present the *Hitman Talent Search*, a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be discovered by one of the music industries' giants. Through the *Hitman Talent Search*, emerging artists in Chicago, New York, New Jersey, Boston, Atlanta, Tampa, Ft. Lauderdale, Los Angeles, San Jose and Vancouver will compete to be the next mega artist discovered by the collective collaboration of David Foster and the enthusiastic fans in each city that the tour visits. A winning artist will be selected from each of the 10 cities of the Tour and flown to Vancouver, Canada, for a final live showdown at the farewell concert of *Hitman, David Foster and Friends* November 8, 2009. The eventual winner will have an up-close-and-personal music session with the Hitman himself and secure themselves a place on the 2010 *Hitman, David Foster and Friends Tour*. Talent can begin submitting video auditions to namedrop.com on September 14, 2009, where all contest details, rules and application forms will be available.


**Tour dates are as follows:**  
 Oct 21- Chicago, IL Wed Rosemont Theatre  
 Oct 23- New York, NY Fri WaMu Theater Madison Square Garden  
 Oct 24- Newark, NJ Sat Prudential Center  
 Oct 25- Boston, MA Sun Agganis Arena  
 Oct 28- Atlanta, GA Wed Fox Theatre  
 Oct 30- Tampa, FL Fri St. Pete Times Forum  
 Nov 1- Hollywood, FL Sun Hard Rock Live  
 Nov 5- Los Angeles, CA Thur Gibson Amphitheatre at Universal City Walk  
 Nov 6- San Jose, CA Fri HP Pavilion  
 Nov 8- Vancouver, BC Sun General Motors Place

Ticket prices for the HITMAN, David Foster and Friends tour are \$125, \$85 and \$55 and can be purchased by logging on to [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or by calling 1 (800) 745-3000 (except for Vancouver, Canada, (604) 280-4444, or [www.ticketmaster.ca](http://www.ticketmaster.ca)) NAMEDROP.COM is the definitive online network of the world's most extraordinary people, where celebrities, champions and titans from all industries provide passionate fans with exclusive news and content about themselves, their careers, their projects and their causes, along with unprecedented access to come face-to-face with the world's most extraordinary people with incredible once-in-a-lifetime opportunities.




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**Showbitz!**  
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 "Ayoko sanang umiyak pero it's such a freeing experience to finally talk about it," she says. "I feel that what I need to do is to stand up and move forward and trust that God is there behind me. *Mas marami akong magagawa nang malayo sa kanya.* And if ever that happens again, *sana naman po siya na ang tipong binigay sa akin ni Lord para hindi ko na siya pagsisihan* in the end. I have to trust Him."  
 Mo Twister is confident of his talent as a DJ  
 Mo Twister is no doubt one of the most controversial personalities in showbiz today and, as it turns out, one of the most self-assured as well. Still, he admits he has a lot to learn when it comes to television hosting, citing Drew Arellano and Raymond Gutierrez as the hosts he admires.  
 "I really believe that I do my job well. I work very hard for this. I do believe yung *industriyang ito*, *yung parang* the trend, *parang* has been dictated because of some of my works. But when it comes to radio, I have to believe that I am the best. I have to believe na ako talaga ang gumagawa. Like I research the most... I know all the information. I have to believe, whether it's true or not, because it helps me do my job better."



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