THE 2009 MIGUEL ORNELAS HUMAN RELATIONS AWARD

What is the Award?
This award is granted annually to acknowledge contributions to the University community and to inspire activism and service. The award recognizes an individual and/or a group or organization on campus whose programs, services or actions, in the judgment of the Human Relations Commission, have significantly enhanced positive human relations at BGSU.

Who was Miguel Ornelas?
The award is given in honor of Dr. Miguel Ornelas, a former Human Relations Commission member and Director of Affirmative Action at BGSU. Before his death in 1989, Dr. Ornelas served as an advocate for issues of diversity, as head of the Ohio Hispanic Institute of Opportunity, and as a member of the University’s Graduate Student Senate, Third World Graduate Association and La Union de Estudiantes Latinos. He was the recipient of the first Hispanic Award from Project Search. The Miguel Ornelas Award is intended to bring to the attention of the University community the actions and services of those who reflect Dr. Ornelas’ values.

What is the nomination process?
A nomination form for the Miguel Ornelas Human Relations Award, including the selection criteria, is attached. The Human Relations Commission must receive the nomination forms and supporting materials no later than Monday, Oct. 12, 2009. Members of the Human Relations Commission are not eligible for nomination. Anyone can submit a nomination. Self-nominations are accepted.

Who has received the award in the past?
2008-09 Yolanda Flores, Center for Multicultural and Academic Initiatives
2007-08 Julie George, ESL Instructor and International Student Advocate
2006-07 Nicky Damania, LGBTQA Resource Center
2005-06 Sheila Brown, Associate Director/Multicultural Affairs
2004-05 VALE
2003-04 Positive Images
2002-03 Davin Heckman, Christine Pease-Hernandez, & Masters of Teaching ESL Program
2001-02 Teresa Kasperick-Postellon, Muslim Student Union, and Vagina Monologues
2000-01 Danielle Boaz and Alicia Walter
1999-01 Mary Wrighten and Partnerships for Community Action
1998-99 Stefoni Bavin/GSS Ad-Hoc Committee on Conflict Resolution and Vision
1997-98 Penda Horton and the Latino Student Union
1996-97 Multicultural Mentoring Program
1995-96 World Student Association
1994-95 University Activities Organization
1993-94 Racism Reduction Center
1992-93 Libraries and Learning Resources’ Multicultural Affairs Committee