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COPY: NEWS RELEASE ON DESTINO DINNER

CLIENT: DESTINO, PRO BONO DATE: November 21, 2006

DRAFT: SECOND

TARGET: POTENTIAL SPONSORS/MEDIA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DESTINO WILL CELEBRATE FIRST DECADE WITH JANUARY 27 GALA DINNER AT VENTURA'S CROWNE PLAZA Sponsors Sought to Help Destino Achieve \$1 Million Goal to Expand Existing Grant Program, Launch New Scholarship Fund

CAMARILLO, Calif. (Nov. 21, 2006) -- Antonia Hernández, former president and general counsel of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, will be the keynote speaker at Destino: The Hispanic Legacy Fund's 10th anniversary gala dinner celebration on Saturday, January 27, at the Crowne Plaza in Ventura.

Hernandez is president and chief executive officer of the California Community Foundation, the largest and most active philanthropic organizations in Southern California.

Portions of the proceeds from the dinner gala will help Destino, a charitable fund of the Ventura County Community Foundation (VCCF), to launch a scholarship program and achieve the fund's overall goal of raising \$1 million during its first decade.

"I'm looking forward to reaching our goal and celebrating with my compadres who have worked so hard to bring in these dollars to help these kids improve their lives," says Hank Lacayo, one of the founders of the Destino Fund and its current chair. "I know we'll all feel like a million bucks when we celebrate that night because it's all been made possible by our friends in the community who are giving back and recognizing how important the Latino community is to our county," Lacayo added.

A limited number of "Circle of 10" sponsorships are available at \$10,000 each, which includes a table for 10 at the dinner, a full-page ad in the dinner program, inclusion in pre-event promotion and an intimate pre-event cocktail reception with Antonia Hernández. A Title Sponsorship is also available.

For more information on sponsorship and the Destino Dinner, please contact Susan Walker, (805) 988-0196, ext 115 or email swalker@vccf.org

Destino, The Hispanic Legacy Fund, provides opportunities for the economic, educational, physical, emotional, social, artistic and personal growth of Latinos in Ventura County. For more information, go online to www.vccf.org

Established in 1987, the Ventura County Community Foundation is a family of charitable funds created by citizens who care deeply about strengthening the community, preserving and expanding its cultural resources, and helping those in need.

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