

Press Release No. 8

- The American Mexican Association held its first national conference on November 2nd and 3rd in Dallas, Texas.
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AMA HOLDS ITS FIRST NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN DALLAS, TEXAS

The American Mexican Association held its first national conference of leaders from 30 cities throughout the United States. Members of diverse associations, enterprises, organizations, and outstanding individuals met in Dallas on November 2nd and 3rd to finalize the launching process of this 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization.

Over 37 million Mexicans and Mexican-Americans live in the United States. As the largest diaspora in the country, they represent 10 percent of the total population. Their purchasing power surpasses 800 billion dollars annually. **AMA's mission** is to be the voice of the communities of Mexican origin in the United States by coming together as a unified, collaborative network.

In less than a year, its presence has grown to over 50 cities across the U.S. AMA reaffirms its vision of continuing working through its citizen-led effort to become a unified community recognized and appreciated for its undeniable contributions to the United States, for the benefit of this country built by immigrants.

During the event, AMA welcomed Dina Siegel, Director of AJC's Arthur and Rochelle Belfer Institute for Latino and Latin American Affairs (BILLA), who led an advocacy workshop to design specific strategies for AMA's expansion.

This first national conference took place during one of the most significant and vibrant celebrations of Mexican culture, "*Día de Muertos*" (Day of the Death). During its opening reception, members remembered loved ones as well as icons for the Mexican American community.

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