



# Fullerton Observer

Fullerton's Only Local Independent News • est. 1978 (printed on 100% recycled paper)

EARLY-MARCH 2007

## Local Teens Participate in the "Walk In My Shoes" Symposium on Inter-group Cooperation

LA based author, actress and musician, Michele Dominguez Greene, has been confirmed as the keynote speaker at the March 2, Walk In My Shoes symposium on Inter-group cooperation. Michele will address over 450 middle school students at Cal State Fullerton as they begin a day that encourages them to work collaboratively towards creating a safe, inclusive, equitable school climate that is respectful of, and celebrates, diversity. Greene's recently published novel, "Chasing The Jaguar," draws on her own experiences growing up in a Latino family in Los Angeles.

Speaking about her work with young people, she says, "I want to create a place where they can feel safe and respected to tell their stories in their own way, where they will not be judged or made fun of but encouraged and applauded to find their own voices."

The important message Greene will be delivering at the conference is, "Have a plan, a dream to keep going. Focus on where you want to be... not just where you are right now."

### About WALK IN MY SHOES

Walk in my Shoes is a daylong event designed to provide Orange County students and educators with information and skills to meet the opportunities and challenges of living in an increasingly diverse Orange County.

Over 450 participants - teams of students, teachers, counselors, and administrators - from approximately 25 Orange County Middle Schools. Cities represented include: Anaheim, Buena Park, Las Flores, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Irvine, La Habra, Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Placentia, Rancho Santa Margarita, Santa Ana, Tustin, and Westminster.

The event is meant to empower and motivate youth by offering workshops, many led by their peers, which demonstrate real life examples of students involved in creating positive change in their communities and the world. An outstanding mix of workshops will encourage Orange County youth to observe themselves, those around them and the larger community.

### About Michele Domínguez Greene

Michele Domínguez Greene, Emmy-nominated actress, author and musician, uses her multi-faceted artistry to communicate and connect with people through her writing, music and socio-political work. Michele can currently be seen in a recurring role on David Mamet's CBS series The Unit. In Spring 2007 Greene will be performing a concert tour representing Amnesty International's Women of Juarez Campaign. A portion of the sales of her current bilingual CD, "Luna Roja" will go to support AI's work in Ciudad Juarez where hundreds of young women have been murdered or disappeared. Working with Art Share LA, Greene uses her book "Chasing the Jaguar" as a writing tool, for monthly workshops to encourage women to share their stories and find their artistic voice. Impressed by the positive messages this book communicates, the American Library Association has announced that they have nominated "Chasing the Jaguar" for the 2007 Best Books for Young Adults Award, in the fiction category. For more information please visit [www.michelegreen.com](http://www.michelegreen.com)

### About OC Human Relations

The mission of OC Human Relations is to foster mutual understanding among residents and eliminate prejudice, intolerance and discrimination to make Orange County a better place for ALL people to live, work and do business. The Orange County Human Relations Commission was created by the Orange County Board of Supervisors in 1971 in collaboration with the League of Cities. The Orange County Human Relations Council is a private, non-profit 501(c)3 organization founded in 1991 for the purpose of developing and implementing proactive human relations programs in partnership with schools, corporations, cities, foundations and individuals. For more info visit [www.ochumanrelations.org](http://www.ochumanrelations.org) or call Dave Southern at (714) 567-7543. OC Human Relations offices are located at 1300 S. Grand Ave, Santa Ana, CA, 92705