

Ohtli Award Ceremony
Montserrat Garibay Speech
September 28th, 2018

Good evening. Buenas tardes. It is an honor to introduce an extraordinary woman, lawyer, friend, mentor, agent of change and social justice warrior with this beautiful Ohtli recognition by the Mexican Consulate here in Austin.

Barbara Hines is smart, selfless, dedicated, passionate and committed to ensure that the immigrant community is treated with dignity and respect. I have known Barbara for the past 20 years and I have admired her work and dedication since I was in college. I clearly remember seeing her in the news and reading about her work at UT. In 2004, when the raids happened in Austin, I got in contact with her and asked for her advice to help the families of our school. Without hesitation she gave me information and since then we have kept in touch. She is a force to recon in court, she is fearless and bold. She is at rallies chanting with us and our families and when students have done civil disobedience she is there giving free legal advice and donating for la causa.

Barbara has touched many lives of immigrant families especially Mexican citizens. It is thank you to her tenacity and work that millions of young students today are able attend college and pay in-state tuition no matter their immigrant status. Her diligent work and legacy is seeing all over Texas and the country with the law students she mentor at UT.

It is because of her that Austin became the epicenter of DACA clinics for Dreamers in 2012. Her law students and colleagues started a magnificent program that helped millions of students received their DACA permit.

Barbara has received multiple awards and is part of many boards. She is always available no matter the time and even though she is “retired”. She is still the to-go lawyer that we ALL trust and seek for her wisdom.

Everyone that has had the opportunity to work with Barbara knows that she is a guerrera de la justicia con un corazón Mexicano.

Felicidades Barbara, you are an inspiration to all of us. Thank you for your work y la lucha sigue.