

# HERB SOSA

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Community activist, historian, preservationist and freelance writer, Herb Sosa is a founding member of, and currently serves as President & CEO of Unity Coalition | Coalición Unida, offering Leadership, Protection & Promotion of Latinx|Hispanic LGBTQ rights (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning)- the only organization of its kind in South Florida since 2002.

Sosa also is Publisher|Editor-In-chief of AMBIENTE Magazine, the first & only LGBT publication offered in English, Spanish & Portuguese, produced bi-monthly, offered free of charge, and distributed digitally around the globe to thousands of our readers each issue.

Mr. Sosa brings over 20 years of corporate and not-for-profit leadership experience in the community. Previously, Mr. Sosa was Corporate Creative Director for Burdines Dept. stores, was Executive Director of Miami Design Preservation League and the Art Deco Weekend Festival in Miami Beach.

In 1995 Sosa created and developed the Ba-Balú Store concept in Miami, Miami Beach, and Pinecrest, earning the store the unique distinction of being named one of Conde N'ast Traveler Magazines top 100 destinations in the world in 1996. Mr. Sosa has receive various career and personal accolades from his peers, including the Up and Comers Business Leaders Award (1996), City of Miami Beach Herb Sosa Day proclamation (1997), and featured in *Café Con Leche*, a documentary on first-generation Cuban-Americans (1996). Sosa served as chairman of Miami Beach's Historic Preservation Board for over six years, and has served on the Board of Directors of the Miami Design Preservation League, Miami Beach Community Development Corp., Shelbourne & Fernwood HIV/AIDS Housing, and variety of other organizations throughout South Florida. While president of Dade Heritage Trust, Sosa was honored to be involved in the restoration and re-lighting of the 1925 Cape Florida lighthouse in Key Biscayne, culminating with a Gala Re-Lighting Ceremony in July 1996, capping Miami's Centennial.

In January 2004, Herb Sosa was named one of Tentaciones Magazines Top Ten Latina/o activists in the U.S. and in 2005 was named one of OUT magazines Top 100 LGBT Activists and featured on LOGO TV. On April 2008 Sosa was named Terra.com's Activist of the Month.

In 2009 Sosa received a City Proclamation from Miami Beach – Herb Sosa Day - for his community work, was nominated for a Glaad Media Award in 2009 for Outstanding Digital Journalism for his work in Ambiente Magazine and was named one of the 25 Most Influential GLBT Latinos by miapogeo.com. In May 2011 was named one of 5 "People To Know" in Miami Beach by the Miami Herald and was recently featured in PBS' documentaries *In the Life: Orgullo Latino* and *The Day It Snowed In Miami*. In 2017 he received the Hall of Champions Award from SAVE for Community Leadership, and in 2018 was voted Latinx Activist for 2018 on the South Florida Gay News Top50. Sosa currently serves on the City of Miami Beach LGBT Advisory Committee, is a founding member and Vice President of Miami Beach UNITED and Board Member, Liturgical Arts Chair & Public Relations Director for Miami Beach Community Church.