



I am a founding member and Co-Director of **Carpe Diem Interfé A.C Foundation**. Our organization created the **Diálogo Multicultural Universal 2012** -“Multicultural and Universal Dialogue 2012, an event held in Guadalajara last year. Since 2006 Guadalajara has been working closely with the Council for a Parliament of the World Religions (CPWR.org), especially during the Pre-Parliament events of 2007 & 2009. At present we are in dialogue with CPWR about becoming potential hosts for the **2015 Parliament of the World Religions**, which would be held in our beloved Guadalajara.

**It was a honor to receive the invitation from the Southern California Committee for a Parliament of the World's Religions (SCCPWR) to participate in the Latino-Yankee Celebration in honor of World Interfaith Harmony Week held on February 10, 2013.**

A delegation of 11 participants from Los Angeles came to our Guadalajara event last August and, during the Latino-Yankee Celebration, while listening to their testimonies, I marveled at the transcendent nature of what had taken place in Guadalajara. I realized that the repercussions for humanity were not only local, but for all human beings who want a different world, a world filled with love, justice, and brotherhood, a world where there is no place for discrimination among races, creeds and social positions.

That is how our sisters and brothers of Los Angeles experienced the event while attending the Guadalajara Dialogue. The Latino community of Los Angeles in the audience also heard those testimonies as well, a significant moment in the afternoon program. I saw how they were deeply touched and wanted to know more, and even become part of the world interfaith and multicultural movement. I view that as a significant development in Latino-Yankee relations and I think much credit should be given to SCCPWR for making it possible for that to happen in Los Angeles. They are true pioneers of the global interfaith mission.

I also witnessed the joy expressed in the volunteers' faces while they were making dinner, preparing the stage, decorating the reception table, etc. with all the infinite details involved... a joy that is only expressed when there is conviction of the importance of what one is doing. It was obvious that SCCPWR members have years of experience working in this arena, always willing to serve the community.



I myself could not but feel fulfillment and renewed inspiration for continuing with this work. We are proud of having had such a great team in our Guadalajara Event and are very grateful for all of their participation. They not only enriched the event but also demonstrated that there exists a loving union between México and USA. As a result, we are now exploring the possibility of having Guadalajara and Los Angeles become Sister Interfaith Cities. We hope to gain the support of our interfaith leaders and government authorities for making that possible soon.

The fact is the Los Angeles Latino population is significant (about 50%) and growing and nothing seems to be more appropriate or in keeping with the hopeful future of our cities than to establish relations among the different communities through the two Sister Cities. It is now time for us to build global networks rather than continuously working in isolated local communities.

Sincerely yours,  
Gabriela Franco V, Co-Founder, Co-Director  
**Carpe Diem Interfé A.C Foundation**