



BOWDOIN COLLEGE

Commencement

2024



MARIA HINOJOSA, Doctor of Humane Letters

Presented by Nadia V. Celis, *Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures
and Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies*

In a homage to the trajectory and the commitment of our honoree to bilingual broadcasting, this citation will be read in Spanish and English.

[*En 1962, cuando María de Lourdes Hinojosa Ojeda ingresó por primera vez a los Estados Unidos desde México en brazos de su madre, un oficial de inmigración intentó detenerla. Su madre, quien resistió para mantener unida a su familia, no podía imaginar que su coraje estaba inspirando a la futura más confiable testigo de la experiencia de los migrantes en la historia reciente de Estados Unidos.*]

In 1962, when Maria de Lourdes Hinojosa Ojeda first entered the US from Mexico in her mother's arms, an immigration officer attempted to detain her. Her mother, who bravely stood to keep her family together, couldn't imagine she was inspiring the future's most reliable witness to the migrant experience in recent American history.

[*Graduada de Barnard College, Hinojosa ha sido periodista y productora de los siguientes medios.*] A graduate of Barnard College, Hinojosa has been a journalist and producer for media such as NPR, WNBC, CNN, CBS and PBS. [*Ha sido profesora*] She has taught in DePaul University and her alma mater. [*Pionera en la cobertura de y desde las comunidades latinas en los Estados Unidos, es el corazón de Latino USA y la fundadora de la productora sin fines de lucro Futuro Media.*] A pioneer in reporting about and by Latinx communities in the US, she is the head of Latino USA for NPR and the founder of the production nonprofit Futuro Media. [*También es la autora de cuatro libros.*] She is also the author of four books.

[*Su compromiso con la rigurosa búsqueda de la verdad ha sido reconocido con los siguientes premios.*] Her commitment to rigorous truth-telling has been recognized by many awards, including: four Emmys, the John Chancellor Award, the Studs Terkel Community Media Award, two Robert F. Kennedy Awards, the Edward R. Murrow Lifetime Achievement Award, a Peabody Award, and a Pulitzer Prize.

[*Desde cubrir a los neoyorquinos multirraciales perdidos el 11 de septiembre hasta exponer las atrocidades de las operaciones de deportación y los centros de detención de ICE, el trabajo de Hinojosa demuestra que la historia de la resiliencia de los migrantes es la historia de Estados Unidos.*]

From covering the multiracial New Yorkers lost on 9/11 to exposing the atrocities of ICE's removal operations and detention centers, Hinojosa's work demonstrates that the history of migrants' resilience is the history of America.

[*La historia de David "Suave" González, seguida por Hinojosa durante más de dos décadas, destaca su talento para desvelar la humanidad de todos los sujetos. Sentenciado a cadena perpetua a los diecisiete años, Suave fue liberado treinta años después cuando la Corte Suprema declaró inconstitucionales las sentencias de por vida automáticas para menores. Se convirtió en el protagonista del podcast ganador del Premio Pulitzer de Hinojosa y es ahora el productor de su segunda temporada.*]

The story of David "Suave" Gonzalez, followed by Hinojosa for over two decades, highlights her talent for unfolding the humanity of her subjects. Sentenced to life at seventeen, Suave was released thirty years later when the Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional automatic life sentences for minors. He became the protagonist of the Pulitzer Prize-winning podcast by Hinojosa and is now the producer of its second season. [*Maria, estamos profundamente agradecidos por los límites que has expandido y los caminos que seguirás abriendo para muchas de nosotras.*] Maria, we are deeply grateful for the boundaries you have expanded and the pathways you will continue to open for many of us.

President Zaki, it is my honor to present Maria Hinojosa for the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*, on behalf of Bowdoin College.