



## **Maria L. Ramirez**

Maria loves Fiesta and loves to present visiting dignitaries with a great "Welcome to San Antonio" experience. Since 2008 and continuing to this date she has served on the Host Committee. Maria feels strongly that she needs to contribute to make the meetings fun and exciting. She has worked closely with all of the presidents starting with Sam Bell Steves III in 2011. It was during this time that Maria and President Sam Bell Steves coordinated a floral arrangement to raffle off at each BOC meeting, which has become a new tradition at each meeting. This has been a great success and members who attend BOC meetings wait anxiously for the raffle at the end of each meeting. Now other individuals have joined in Maria's efforts to make the meetings fun and exciting by contributing gifts to be raffled.

In 2010, Maria was instrumental in creating another Fiesta tradition which is to prepare flowers and gift bags for our visiting dignitaries during Fiesta. Maria also provides all of the floral décor in the host hotel and hospitality suite. In 2015 she came up with the idea to have the Fiesta Poster enlarged to approximately 5 ft. by 4 ft. to be adorned with fresh flowers. She had the oversized poster displayed at the "Host Hotel" lobby. Visiting dignitaries, Fiesta visitors and the public at large began to seek out the host hotel to take pictures with the poster as the backdrop.

Maria has served the Fiesta San Antonio Commission as an Elected Commissioner for four years starting in 2012. She has also served as a judge. Maria served as the Vice President of Lo Bello de San Antonio, which is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising funds for scholarships. She also served on the court for Rey Feo LX, Fernando Reyes during his reign. Maria is a current member of Military-Civilian Club and Woman's Club of San Antonio.

Maria supports and contributes to raising funds for Rey Feo. She provides in-kind donations for Queen of Soul Pageant, Woman's Club, Military Ambassadors and The Fiesta Commission. Maria supports many other PMOs. In 2016 Maria served on the 125<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary Committee donating flowers and contributing her services to make every event a success.

Maria served on the Volunteer Services Council Board for the San Antonio State Hospital and was very involved in fundraising efforts. She served as Treasurer on the Florist Trans world Delivery (FTD) board.