



Astrid Chirinos, photo
courtesy YMCA

Astrid Chirinos, Executive Director of the Simmons YMCA

Astrid is the consummate connector. Her work enriches our community's economic, cultural and social fabric. She has a passion for creating platforms of opportunity and access and the skill to make them work.

Astrid currently serves as the Executive Director of the Simmons YMCA in East Charlotte. She came to North Carolina from her native Venezuela to attend college, honed her communication skills in the corporate sector and later by running her own consulting firm.

Prior to her work at the YMCA, Astrid was the Chief Development Executive of the Latin American Economic Development Corporation. After serving as President of the Latin American Chamber of Commerce of Charlotte, an organization she helped found 20 years ago, Astrid led efforts to repurpose the chamber's Foundation into an economic development entity. She recognized the need for the sustainable growth and prosperity of the Latino business community and wanted to find more channels that could help them engage in the community and "belong" in our region.

Her recognitions are extensive. They include awards from the Urban League, La Noticia, Johnson C Smith University, Charlotte Magazine, Mecklenburg Times, Charlotte Business Journal, Girl Scouts and the Maya Angelou Women Who Lead award to name just a few. Astrid was recently recognized as a Top 60 Influencer in North Carolina.

Charlotte and our state have been beneficiaries of her willingness to serve on countless local and state boards including being a member of the Governor's Advisory Council on Latin American/Hispanic Affairs.

Astrid's strong communication skills and entrepreneurial experience have made her uniquely qualified to link people with options, opportunity and success.