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## **GELENA SOLANO**

Gelena Solano, a native of the Dominican Republic, is a graduate of Kean University in New Jersey. At Kean, Gelena dedicated her studies to communications. Her drive and hard work after college helped her receive a head start in her career by accepting a position at “Noticiero 13” Telemundo in Harford, CT. Gelena’s rising career led her to work for Radio Stations such as Noticias 1380 AM, Latino Mix 105.9FM, WADO 1280AM, and Univision’s morning show “Al Despertar.”

Currently, Gelena Solano is the exclusive New York Reporter for Univision’s top rated entertainment show “El Gordo y La Flaca”. This career experience as the New York reporter has opened many doors and brought opportunities for Gelena to cover high profile news events as well as entertainment. From New Year’s Eve in Time Square to Hispanic Heritage Month at the White House, she has covered a wide array of events. Gelena has interviewed many popular and well-respected entertainers such as a Jennifer Lopez, and Salma Hayek.

Aside from her career as a reporter, Gelena is known for her style and grace. She has entered and won many beauty pageants such as “Miss Latina USA,” and “Miss Dominican Republic.” She has used this platform for her community and in return, Gelena’s community has honored her by making her God Mother of Ceremonies to festivals such as “Festival Mi Gente” in Washington D.C. This year, Gelena has been nominated as the God Mother of the 2006 Dominican Parade in New York City. She has been recognized and has won many awards in her field such as “Reporter of the Year” for “Premios Estrellas de la Musica.”

Gelena maintains a positive image in the community and has been in commercials for Auto giants such as Mitsubishi and Toyota. She is proud to be Dominican and most importantly, looks to her experiences and recognition as a platform to help out her community by being involved in many charitable events.