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Socialist Presidential Campaign Launches: Claudia De la Cruz for President, Karina Garcia for Vice-President

Socialist organizers Claudia De la Cruz and Karina Garcia will be running in the 2024 presidential election on the ticket of the Party for Socialism and Liberation to demand real solutions to the crises facing poor and working people

Watch the campaign launch video here

Today, the Party for Socialism and Liberation announced their presidential ticket for the 2024 election: Claudia De la Cruz for President and Karina Garcia for Vice-President. Every injustice working people experience in society, boils down to the question of who has power. Under the current capitalist system, a tiny handful of ultra-wealthy bankers and corporate executives have the power and will do anything to maintain it. This campaign stands for socialism — a system where poor and working people hold political and economic power and use it to meet the needs of all people and to preserve the planet. So many problems could be solved by measures that are common sense to any worker, but are unthinkable under the rule of the billionaires. Instead of a tiny clique of billionaires and hedge funds running and deciding everything, the diverse working class needs to control the the economy and come up with long-term plans to get out of the mess the super-rich created.

Claudia De la Cruz is a mother, popular educator, community organizer and theologian. Born in the South Bronx to immigrant parents from the Dominican Republic, she was nourished by the Black and Caribbean working class communities of the Bronx and Washington Heights in the 1980s and 90s. When she was 13, Claudia began her political organizing work at her home church—Iglesia Episcopal Santa Maria (later the Iglesia San Romero de Las Américas-UCC), grounding her work on principles of liberation theology. She actively participated in campaigns to free political prisoners; to get the U.S. Navy out of Vieques, Puerto Rico; to end the U.S. blockade against Cuba; for the freedom of Palestine; and against police terror—to name a few. Most recently, she has served as the Co-Executive Director and co-founder of the The People's Forum in New York City—a political education space and cultural home for working-class organizers, leaders and intellectuals from all over the country, and around the world. She has actively participated and contributed to collective grassroots initiatives, particularly in the Black

and Latino neighborhoods of Washington Heights and the South Bronx, communities that continue to play a special role in her political development and journey.

Chicana organizer and popular educator Karina Garcia is one of the founders of the Justice Center en El Barrio in New York City and member of the Central Committee of the Party for Socialism and Liberation, Karina has dedicated her life to her work as a socialist organizer. Karina's father moved to the U.S. from Mexico when he was just 16 years old, and his story inspired her to grow with the courage and determination to fight for a better world. She led struggles to expand financial aid for low-income students, for immigrant and worker rights, and to speak out against the Iraq War. In 2006, her activism received national attention when she led a campaign to confront and shut down the anti-immigrant fascist militia, the Minuteman Project. Throughout her life, her work has continued to build the power of working-class people, from fighting alongside immigrant communities in NYC against Trump's vitriol, to representing her fellow educators in one of the largest teachers unions in the nation, the United Federation of Teachers, to uniting broad coalitions and organizing mobilizations on International Women's Day, to training and teaching domestic workers and trafficking survivors in building their anti-wage theft and anti-trafficking campaigns, to developing organizers around the country.

This campaign is about more than an election. We're running to build a political organization that gives voice and confidence to the working people of this country. It's time to stop going around in circles while the elites trade places. We are building the fight for a better future — a socialist future.

Claudia De la Cruz and Karina Garcia are available for interviews, contact Walter Smolarek at 412-651-7719 or press@votesocialist2024.com to schedule

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