



Eva Longoria Parker A Biography

Golden Globe nominee, Screen Actors Guild Award Nominee, People's Choice Award winner, Bambi Award winner, Teen Choice Award winner and ALMA Award winner **Eva Longoria Parker** is best known for her role as "Gabrielle Solis" on the ABC mega hit "**Desperate Housewives**," (SUNDAY 9:00 p.m. P/E), the two-time Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild winning show, seen in 208 countries around the world. This People's Choice Award winner for "Favorite Female TV Star" was named one of 2005 *People's* "50 Most Beautiful," 2006's and 2007's "100 Most Beautiful People," one of *Rolling Stone's* "People of the Year," and the "#1 Hottest Woman in the World" on *Maxim's* annual "Hot 100" list two years in a row. She is the international face of **L'Oréal Paris**, a spokesperson in American and Latin markets for **PepsiCo, Inc.** and the face of **BEBE SPORT**. On the film front, Longoria Parker stars opposite Rob Corddry ("The Winner"), Monica Potter ("Boston Legal"), and Jason Biggs (AMERICAN PIE) in the independent film **LOWER LEARNING** for writer/director Mark Lafferty, financed by Anchor Bay/Starz slated for a September 2008 release. She lends her voice along with Charlie Sheen, Wayne Brady and Hilary Duff to the upcoming Lions Gate animated film **FOODFIGHT!**, where she plays "Lady X," the smart, conniving Brand X product icon who uses her beauty as a means to take over the world. Longoria Parker starred in New Line/Gold Circle Films' **OVER HER DEAD BODY** alongside Paul Rudd, Lake Bell, Jason Biggs, Lindsay Sloane and Stephen Root. She also starred in Fox/Regency/Further Films' **THE SENTINEL**, opposite Michael Douglas, Kiefer Sutherland and Kim Basinger and alongside Christian Bale and Freddie Rodriguez in the indie film **HARSH TIMES**, written and directed by David Ayer.

On the producing front, Longoria Parker partnered with Brittany Olson in **UnbeliEVable** Entertainment, which has been developing TV shows, as well as films. Their TV show ideas have been sold to ABC, ABC Family, and VH1. At the same time, she is also hitting the feature arena with full force by partnering up with writers to make films based on true stories, in addition to writing film scripts based on UnbeliEVable original ideas. Eva also just bought the rights to a great book called "SixtyFive Roses" by Heather Summerhayes Cariou. It's a beautiful story about a sister's love for a sick sibling with cystic fibrosis. She is also in the process of buying the rights to two chick-lit books that will be developed by her production company for feature films.

Longoria Parker starred in a verité style fake “sex tape” on funnyordie.com that has generated almost three million hits, reportedly the second highest-viewed short on the site after Will Ferrell’s “Landlord” <http://www.funnyordie.com/videos/5216488a3b>.

Longoria Parker recently partnered with Celebrity Chef Todd English and restaurateurs JT Torregiani and Jonas Lowrance to open Beso, a Hollywood eatery that features upscale contemporary cuisine. Beso, English's first LA restaurant and Longoria Parker's first-ever, opened to the public in late March of 2008. The 150-seat restaurant and bar boasts an eclectic and universally-appealing dinner menu, featuring colorful and tasty dishes from around the world, as well as some of Longoria Parker’s own recipes.

The youngest of four sisters who grew up on a ranch in Corpus Christi, Texas, Longoria Parker attended Texas A&M-Kingsville where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology. After graduating from college, she entered a talent contest that brought her to Los Angeles, where she was spotted and subsequently signed by a theatrical agent.

Longoria Parker earned the role of “Isabella” on the popular series “The Young and the Restless,” for which she won an ALMA Award for Outstanding Actress in a Daytime Drama in 2002. Longoria Parker’s career was successfully launched. She considers herself blessed to have had the opportunity to work on the #1 daytime drama, which was followed by a role as “Detective Gloria Duran” on Dick Wolf’s “LA Dragnet.”

However, the actress’ most important role is the one she plays off screen in her altruistic endeavors within the Hispanic and charitable communities. On the philanthropic front, she has been honored with countless awards for her achievements. She received the National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts’ Horizon Award, presented each year to the individual or organization whose work most advances the presence of Latinos in television and/or film. At the 21st National Hispanic Women’s Conference, the Hispanic Women's Corporation awarded her the “Latina Visionary and Community Empowerment Award” for her contributions to the Latin community. The conference is the largest gathering of Latinas in the country and provides leadership and professional development to more than 2,000 participants, while raising funds for college scholarships. Longoria Parker was also the recipient of the 2006 NHLI Mujer/Chair Award, presented to her by the National Hispana Leadership Institute for her significant contributions to the empowerment and well being of the Hispanic community. The Larry King Cardiac Foundation, in partnership with the American Heart Association, also presented her with the “Corazones Unidos Award” for her philanthropic efforts. Most recently Longoria Parker was honored with the “Hope of Los Angeles Award” by the mayor of Los Angeles. Additionally, Longoria Parker donated a house to one of the victims of Katrina through the Oprah Angel Network, and most recently donated her whole one episode salary of Desperate Housewives’ to Oprah’s new philanthropic TV show “The Big Give.”

Longoria Parker also has her own charities and organizations that are very close to her heart. She is the National Spokesperson for **PADRES Contra El Cáncer** (Parents Against Cancer) for over 3 years.

Padres is a non-profit organization committed to improving the quality of life for Latino children with cancer and their families, bringing them together with healthcare professionals and community leaders to promote a comprehensive understanding of childhood cancer and other blood disorders, as well as, effective methods for their treatment. They currently remain the only Latino organization of its kind operating within the United States. The success of the unique and inclusive program model is premised upon a health & education curriculum designed to be culturally-relevant, family-centered and community-based. Longoria Parker first came to PADRES in 2003 where she began volunteering her time by visiting children with cancer while in the hospital and at PADRES family events. Since becoming spokesperson for the organization in 2005, Longoria Parker has personally contributed and helped raise over \$4 million for the organization through her participation as chair of the PADRES' annual fundraising gala "El Sueño de Esperanza," and other special fundraising campaigns. As spokesperson, Longoria Parker has become a leading advocate, bringing awareness to the critical issues affecting childhood cancer patients and their families. Although she continues to raise significant dollars to expand the PADRES nationally, Longoria Parker continues to volunteer with the organization locally, spending time with the children where her true passion really lies.

In addition to PADRES, Longoria Parker works with the Special Olympics and founded the non-profit organization "**Eva's Heroes**," which provides an after school program with an inclusive setting for individuals with developmental disabilities to interact, play, and grow with their typically-developing peers, and also provides services to families such as counseling, parenting workshops, and sibling support groups. Eva and her husband Tony Parker recently held their first annual "Celebrity Casino Night" in San Antonio, Texas, raising an astonishing \$500,000 for the charity. Eva's Heroes will also be holding their second annual "Celebrity Golf Tournament" this October, after raising hundreds of thousands of dollars at her first golf tournament last year.

This year marks the third consecutive year that she has both hosted and produced the National Council of La Raza ALMA Awards on ABC, which honors Latino artistic achievement in the television, film, and music industry. The NCLR is the largest Latino rights and advocacy organization. With her help, the ALMA Awards has earned its highest ratings since their inception and she continues to strive to make each year better than the next.

As the international L'Oreal spokesperson, she is a strong supporter of the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund, the leading independent, non-profit organization in the United States dedicated to advancing research, raising awareness and finding a cure. She is also involved with the Entertainment Industry Foundation/Callaway Golf Foundation, where she again raises awareness of ovarian cancer.

Longoria Parker currently works closely with The United Farm Workers (UFW), The Mexican American Legal Defense Educational Fund (MALDEF), the Dolores Huerta Foundation and The National Council of La Raza (NCLR). As if that's not enough, she also recently visited her hometown Wendy's in Corpus Christi, TX, where she served Frostys to help raise money for the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption.

Whether she is volunteering during presidential campaigns, engaging Latino voters, or working with one of her charities, Eva Longoria Parker proves that ambition goes a long way.