

## COMMUNITY

### Aviation Commissioner saluted at gala celebration

More than 500 admirers and supporters were in attendance when Nuria I. Fernandez, the newly appointed Commission for the Department of Aviation — and a native of Panama — was recently saluted at a reception held at the DuSable Museum of African-American History.

The tribute was co-hosted by the Friends of Panama and the Du Sable Museum of African American History. In the celebratory program, she was hailed for “personifying the strong tradition of excellence and devotion to achieve-

ment that symbolizes the values of her mother country of Panama.”

Among those in attendance from the Friends of Panama Committee were native Panamanians Cirilo A. McSween, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary on Special Mission of the Republic of Panama, Attorney Eric Graham, Marivel Aleman-Jones, Rossana Weathersby, Rolando Duncan and Ernesto Mendoza. Others on the Committee in attendance were Alderman William Beavers, Deven Rand and Nikki Zollar. DuSable Museum officials at the gala salute

were Antoinette Wright, president, Mark Watson, chairman of the board and Don Jackson, past chairman, who also served as Master of Ceremonies.

The Friends of Panama Committee pointed to Fernandez’s impressive background in engineering, construction, transportation and management as a reason why she will make an excellent commissioner and why Mayor Richard M. Daley made an excellent appointment in naming her to this important position.



**CIRILO MCSWEEN AND NURIA FERNANDEZ** are pictured at the Reception with an artistically-created airplane that was designed and presented to her by the DuSable Museum of African-American History.

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