

As we gather at SVRI in the Americas and mark GWI's tenth anniversary, we are proud to stand with exceptional women human rights defenders in Latin America.

Today we present awards to **Brisa De Angulo** of the **Breeze of Hope Foundation** in Bolivia and **Ana Lucía Álvarez** on behalf of the **20 Nicaraguan women political prisoners**. They are living examples of the change women can make when they stand up for themselves and for others. Their courage inspires us.

We celebrate their achievements as Champions for Justice, and we redouble our efforts to resist inequity and show our solidarity and support for Women Human Rights Defenders.

Women's rights activists are the driving force behind all global progress toward gender equality.

GWI is committed to partnering with women's rights organizations to end gender-based violence. We co-created the WEAVE Collective (Women Engaged Against Violence Everywhere) to document and uplift the voices of feminist movements to end violence against women and girls (VAWG), beginning with case studies in India, Nicaragua, South Africa and Australia.

We were proud to support Brisa De Angulo's case before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and to join other partners in campaigns to demand justice for Nicaraguan women's rights activists in exile and in prison. We are honored to stand in solidarity with these women who are Champions for Justice.

Join us in celebrating these courageous women and supporting their efforts to resist violence and inequality and to defend the rights of women and girls everywhere.

*For more information*

A Breeze of Hope Foundation:  
<https://www.abreezeofhope.org>



The Global Women's Institute  
at the George Washington University:  
<https://globalwomensinstitute.gwu.edu>



The cover photo is called "Resisting Despair" and was painted by a student protester during the 2018 civic uprising in Nicaragua.

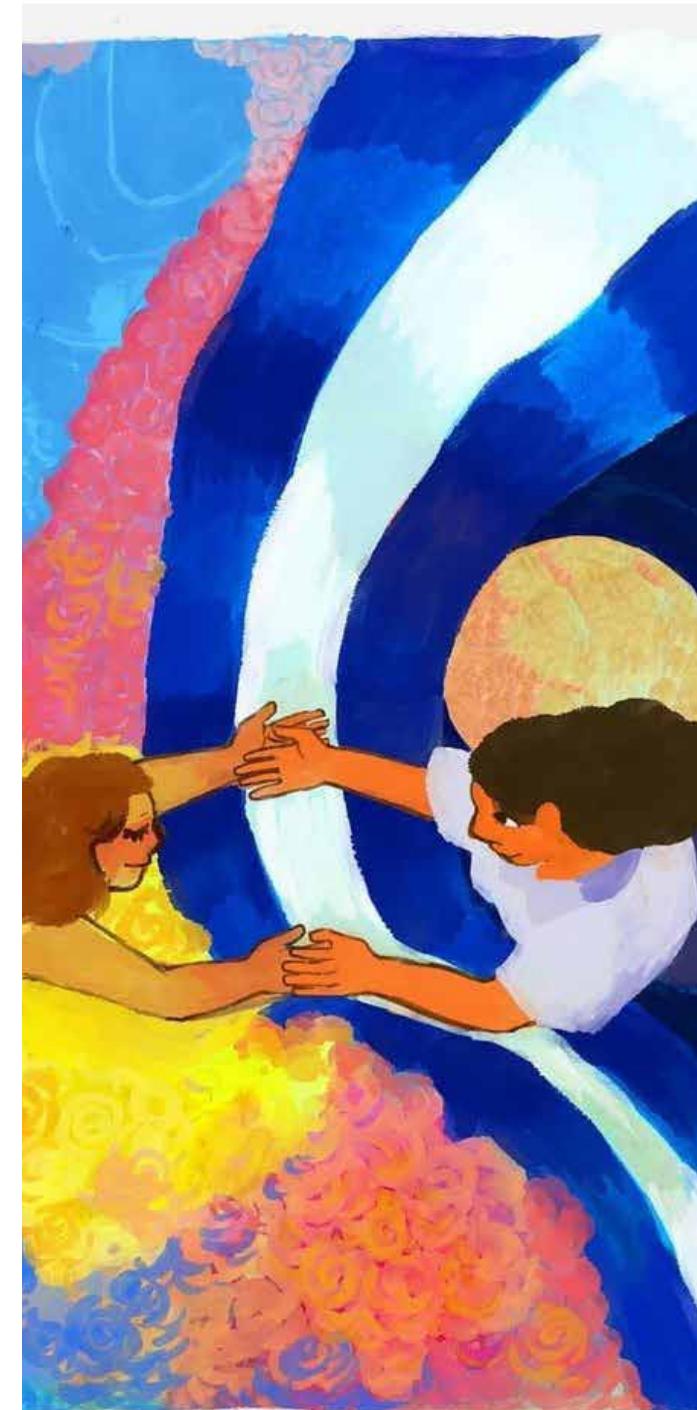
**THE  
GLOBAL  
WOMEN'S  
INSTITUTE**

**Celebrating  
10 years  
of bridging  
research  
and action**



The Global  
Women's Institute

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



## BRISA DE ANGULO A BREEZE OF HOPE

Twenty years ago, **Brisa De Angulo** was raped and tortured by an extended family member. She was living in Bolivia, which has had the highest rates of sexual violence against women and girls in all of Latin America and the Caribbean. When she broke the silence, local authorities ostracized and blamed her for the events. But Brisa refused to allow the Bolivian government to deny justice in her case, or in the cases of other girls who have experienced this violence. She was determined to create a safe place where girls would be heard: a place that would affirm that “being a girl doesn’t give anyone the right to hurt you.”

As a teenager, Brisa founded A Breeze of Hope, which at the time was the only center in Bolivia that offered support to survivors of childhood sexual violence. A Breeze of Hope is now an advanced center providing healing and legal support to child survivors and their families. This year, Brisa’s case was heard by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, causing the Bolivian government to rewrite their sexual violence laws. Brisa is a Champion for Justice.



## NICARAGUAN WOMEN POLITICAL PRISONERS

In Nicaragua, there are twenty women human rights defenders in prison. Eighteen have spent more than a year in prison, most of them in isolation and four in solitary confinement, for their non-violent activism against government oppression.

**Esperanza Sánchez, Karla Escobar, Julia Hernández, Cristiana Chamorro, Violeta Granera, Tamara Dávila, Suyén Barahona, Dora María Téllez, Ana Margarita Vijil, María Fernanda Flores, María Oviedo, Nidia Barbosa, Evelyn Pinto, Samantha Jirón,** and six other women have each been incarcerated for more than a year, subjected to inhumane treatment, and in several cases unable to communicate with their very young children. Their families refuse to abandon hope of seeing them alive and free, and are joining forces with activists from all over the world calling for their release.

They are among 205 prisoners incarcerated in Nicaragua for exercising their freedom of expression. We stand in solidarity with these women who are Champions for Justice.



Mommy, I love you very much. You are in my heart. You are a very important person to me. Why won't they let me see you? It's been a very long time. I miss you very very much.

Letter from Tamara Dávila's 6-year-old daughter

