

Ellen Ochoa is an outside director and a keynote speaker with the Lavin Agency, with 30 years of experience in aerospace operations and management as an astronaut and senior government executive. She has proven successful at leading change, operating in a high-risk, high-visibility environment, nurturing public-private partnerships, engaging a diverse workforce, and inspiring others, particularly females and minorities, about STEM careers.

Dr. Ochoa was Director of NASA's Johnson Space Center from 2013 to 2018, leading the nation's human space flight enterprise. Her change management efforts resulted in simplified processes to develop experimental flight hardware; a streamlined organizational structure; efficiencies in facilities and contract management; and the use of open innovation and partnerships to solve challenges and share technology.

As the first Latina astronaut, Dr. Ochoa applied her technology and operations experience during four space shuttle missions. She has been inducted into the Astronaut Hall of Fame and has eight schools named after her. She is a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom and is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), the National Academy of Inventors (NAI) and Optica (formerly the Optical Society of America).

Dr. Ochoa provides executive guidance to a variety of organizations, including serving on the boards of Service Corporation International (Compensation Committee Chair; NYSE:SCI), Mutual of America Financial Group, the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and SRI International. She is a member of the Latino Corporate Directors Association (LCDA), and Women Corporate Directors (WCD). She continues outreach as a keynote speaker with The Lavin Agency and has also written a children's bilingual book series published by Lil' Libros, LLC. Previously, she chaired the National Science Board and the Nomination Evaluation Committee for the National Medal of Technology and Innovation, and served on the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas board, the Stanford University Board of Trustees and the Manned Space Flight Education Foundation, Inc.