A philanthropist at heart and in practice, Melina Cisneros has been using her political science background to advocate for environmental protection, education and healthcare in both the U.S. and Latin America. Her first TED experience was the TEDIndia conference, which sparked her passion for engaging with humanitarian issues both locally and globally. Every year, Cisneros and her husband Eduardo “get their dose of intriguing new ideas at TED, which they bring to all their different communities,” she says.

Cisneros brings a unique internationally-minded perspective to the TEDx Council. As a member of the Council, Cisneros is excited to leverage the program’s “immeasurable potential to educate, inspire and change in local communities around the world,” she says. She knows TEDx’s potential first-hand, as she is passionately dedicated to her role as curator of TEDxCoconutGrove in Florida.

Cisneros currently resides between Massachusetts and Florida with her husband and their three children.