



## Selenis Leyva

"Gabi"

Selenis Leyva stars as Gabi Cañero-Reed - Elena and Bobby's sharp and loving mom - in the Disney+ coming-of-age comedy series "Diary of a Future President" that follows 13-year old Cuban-American Elena and her journey to becoming the future president of the United States while navigating the ups-and-downs of middle school.

Bestowed by the Alliance for Women to honor standout women in the media industry, recognize entertainment, news programming that addressed timely topics and social issues, Ms. Leyva received a Gracie Award for her outstanding work in "Diary Of A Future President."

Actress/Activist Leyva is likely best known for her work on the original, ground-breaking, hit series, "Orange Is The New Black." In 2017 the series won their third consecutive Screen Actors Guild Award for "Best Ensemble Cast in a Comedy Series." Leyva also had a guest-starring arc and recurring role in "Dietland" as Belle, as well as appearing in "Maniac," starring opposite Emma Stone and Jonah Hill. Leyva also guest starred opposite the legendary Candice Bergen in "Murphy Brown."

In 2018, Leyva was included in *Time* magazine's TV MVP list. The 2017 Bronx Walk Of Fame honoree and inductee, Leyva is a proud Latina of Dominican and Cuban descent. In addition to being the first Hispanic ambassador for the Gabrielle's Angel Foundation for Cancer Research, Leyva was included in the Top 10 TV performances by the *New York Times* in 2016. She's also a recipient of the 2016 Visionary Award in New York City from the Stonewall Community Foundation, the recipient of the 2016 Courage Award from the Anti-Violence Project and was included in *People En Espanol* magazine's 2016 Las 25 Mujeres Mas Poderosas Issue (25 Most Powerful Women). Leyva is a strong advocate for LGBTQ rights and works closely with LGBT Human Rights Organizations, GLAAD and Anti-Bullying Campaigns. Other notable achievements include the recipient of the 2015 Hola "Jose Ferrer Tespis" award, the 2015 Cosmo for Latina's: "Women of the Year" award and recognized at the 2014 ALMA Awards with a "Special Achievement" award for breaking barriers in the arts.

Leyva's numerous television credits include recurring roles on hit shows like "Veep," "Law & Order: SVU," "Blue Bloods," "The Good Wife," "Girls," "Elementary," "The Following," "The Sopranos" and "Third Watch." On the big screen, Leyva was in the blockbuster franchise, "Spiderman" as Ms. Warren, she appeared in "Sex & The City 2," the Oscar-nominated film, "Maria Full of Grace," and the animated films "Ice Age: Continental Drift," "EPIC" and "Ice Age: Dawn of Dinosaurs." In addition to her on screen credits, Leyva loves the stage and is best



known for her off-Broadway  
"Basilica," the iconic role of  
hit "Celia," "Ana in the Tropics," "Dona Flor & Her 2 Husbands" and most recently starred in  
the acclaimed off-Broadway play "Tell Hector I Miss Him" at the Atlantic Theater.

run in the Cherry Lane show,  
Celia Cruz in the off-Broadway

Leyva's memoir, "My Sister: How One Sibling's Transition Changes Us Both" was released in  
June 2020.

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