



**Tony Plana** was educated at Loyola-Marymount University, where he earned a bachelor's degree through the Honors Program in Literature and Theater Arts, graduating magna cum laude. He received his professional training at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, England.

Plana most recently starred in the hit ABC series, Ugly Betty. He played Ignacio Suarez, Betty's father. The show was based on the popular Columbian telenova Yo Soy Betty La Fea, and was adapted for the English language by Salma Hayek.

Plana also starred as the widowed, Mexican-American patriarch, Roberto Santiago, in Showtime's landmark, groundbreaking hit series Resurrection Boulevard for which he has received 2001 & 2002 ALMA award nominations for best actor. It is the first English speaking weekly series in the history of television to be produced, written, directed and starring Latinos. Resurrection Boulevard is the first of its kind to be renewed for three seasons on a television network and the most awarded series in Showtime's history including an ALMA award for best television series of 2002.

Having co-directed and co-produced the film A Million To Juan with Paul Rodriguez, Plana celebrated his solo directorial debut in December 2000 with The Princess and the Barrio Boy. It represents the first Latino family film to be produced by Showtime and stars Academy Award nominee Edward James Olmos, Maria Conchita Alonso, Pauly Shore, and two of Plana's co-stars from Resurrection Boulevard, Marisol Nichols and Nicholas Gonzalez. The film received two 2001 ALMA award nominations for Best Made for Television Movie and Best Ensemble Acting and won the 2001 IMAGEN award for Best Made for Television Movie. Plana's television episodic debut was 2001's Resu...

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### Speech Topics

- ☐ Motivation
- ☐ Inspiration
- ☐ Entertainment
- ☐ Diversity
- ☐ Celebrity

