



# 2010 OUTSTANDING WOMEN IN TEXAS GOVERNMENT

## Nomination Form

Please print clearly or type in the spaces below.

### Category:

(Choose One Only)

- Outstanding Professional Development
- Outstanding Management
- Outstanding Contribution
- Outstanding Community Involvement

### Deadline:

5 p.m. May 2, 2010

### Checklist:

- The nomination form is signed by the agency's director or board member
- A narrative statement of up four pages is included
- The submission includes four copies of all materials including the original signed nomination form.

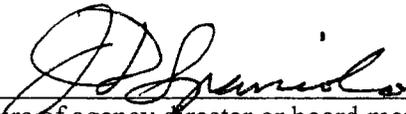
### Nominee Information

Name Anna Michele Bobadilla  
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 State Classification Title \_\_\_\_\_  
 Job Title Senior Associate Vice President for Outreach Services and Community Engagement and Assistant Provost for Hispanic Student Success

### Agency Information

Agency The University of Texas at Arlington  
 Agency Contact James D. Spaniolo  
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 Address Box 19125  
 City Arlington TX 76019  
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### Certification

X  4-30-10  
 Signature of agency director or board member (required) Date  
 Print or type name James D. Spaniolo  
 Title President

Submit four copies, including the original, of the completed nomination form and the narrative statement to:

State Agency Council  
 Post Office Box 13354  
 Austin, Texas 78711

For Overnight or hand deliveries only:  
 c/o Governor's Commission for Women  
 1100 San Jacinto  
 Room E2.258  
 Austin, Texas 78701



## **Anna Michele Bobadilla**

*Senior Associate Vice President for Outreach Services and Community Engagement and Assistant Provost for Hispanic Student Success*

Michele Bobadilla is a Dallas native who believes passionately in her community and in the power of its people to effect change. Ms. Bobadilla demonstrates her commitment and civic responsibility daily through her active involvement for more than three decades in education initiatives, civic boards, and volunteer organizations. Ms. Bobadilla's openness and generous spirit along with her dedication, perseverance, organizational skills and leadership have garnered widespread community support. Her desire to serve as a catalyst for change for the betterment of the community-at-large is a tremendous asset. When she is determined to make something happen, she is able to energize and mobilize people into action. She champions higher education for others by promoting access and equity through extensive outreach and community partnerships forged with community based organizations. "Ms. Bobadilla has a lifelong commitment to empower young people with opportunities. To make this outcome possible, she serves as a role model, advocate, and mentor," stated Hector M. Flores, former National President, League of United Latin American Citizens. Actively engaging the Greater Dallas/Fort Worth metro area by volunteering evening and weekend hours to organizations offering opportunities for growth and lifelong learning is her passion.

Ms. Bobadilla established the Society of 100 Endowed Scholars' Fund in cooperation with the Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and community partners to ensure an educational legacy for Greater Dallas area students pursuing a higher education. As chair of the Stars on the Rise Scholarship Program, she raised more than \$1.3 million dollars in 2010. As a result, 120 students were awarded substantial scholarships in order to pursue their dreams of a higher education. Ms. Bobadilla is also serving as the chair for the Fort Worth Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's scholarship program to help them grow and forge vital partnerships that will benefit area students. In recognition of her community efforts and advocacy on behalf of students at the Irma Rangel Young Women's Leadership School, the state's

first public/private school, Carmyn Neely, Executive Director, Foundation for the Education of Young Women, said “Michele has been a loyal supporter. Not only has she provided financial support for our underprivileged young women to pursue their college dreams, she has also served as Chairperson of the Advisory Council for three years. Michele has shared her administrative capabilities as well as her empathy for this initiative.”

Ms. Bobadilla has served as on the boards of twenty-five organizations, and she has actively maintained her civic/community involvement by serving on more than fifty committees addressing the needs of the community-at-large. Her involvement underscores her commitment to making things happen for others. She has always remarked about her good fortune in having mentors who nurtured, guided, and provided the support needed to succeed in this world. Her life’s work as an advocate, mentor, and volunteer, has made many dreams become reality for the students and families she has touched throughout her volunteer commitments.

As co-chair of the Latina Living Legend Awards this year, Ms. Bobadilla has helped this Hispanic women’s organization raise more than \$20,000 for their endowment. The organization’s endowment annually awards grants to non-profit, community-based organizations that promote educational and employment opportunities for women and girls. Ann Minnis remarked, “I have been privileged to work closely with Michele Bobadilla over the past 15 years and most recently as Co-chair of the Hispanic 100 Latina Living Legend Awards. I have marveled at her untiring commitment to improve the lives of those in our community needing a hand up. A top priority has been her leadership in raising substantial funds which have and continue to give hope and opportunity to thousands of metroplex residents over the years. Michele is a champion advocate to those she serves. She possesses a unique combination of professionalism, knowledge, interpersonal skills, personal integrity, and a strong commitment to her community. She is firmly grounded in the highest standard of personal and professional ethics.”

Her involvement as a board member with the Dallas Concilio spawned the creation of the Psyched Out About Math and Science Program. This program is designed to expose, encourage, and provide hands-on opportunities in the fields of math, science, and technology to sixth-grade girls. Knowing how pivotal the sixth grade is in the decision making process involved in academia and the pre-college planning that begins in

middle school, *Psyched Out About Math and Science*, has provided young girls with invaluable experiences by learning firsthand from female mentors. The girls' mothers are also included as an important component in learning to support and nurture their daughters' educational pursuits. "Through her involvement, Michele Bobadilla has worked tirelessly on weekends and evenings to foster the development of young Latinas. Her passion and enthusiasm are contagious—she inspires others to achieve more than thought possible," said Dr. Mary Hendrix, Vice President for Student Access and Success at Texas A & M University-Commerce.

As co-founder of *University Crossroads*, a partnership of colleges and universities in North Texas, she has been able to impact more than 10,500 students through free SAT Math Prep Classes offered in Dallas and Fort Worth. She forged this partnership with 27 area colleges, community based organizations, chambers of commerce, and school districts providing services that directly benefit students. "Michele has been instrumental in the development and implementation of college readiness and college access activities offered to students and parents on weeknights and evenings. She has provided leadership and talent in order to ensure students successfully transition from high school to college," stated Dr. Liliana Valadez, Executive Director, Dallas ISD College and Career Readiness Division. Through this assistance, students have increased their math score by more than 90 points. As a result, some borderline students have been able to accept athletic and academic scholarships that had been out of reach based on their initial scores. This community outreach program has had a tremendous impact on students and is popular among parents and teachers. Numerous community partners have joined in financially supporting this initiative serving the Greater Dallas/Fort Worth area. Barbara Merkle, Director of Admissions, Midwestern State University commented as follows: "Michele Bobadilla has been instrumental in organizing universities, community based organizations, and chambers of commerce to participate in endeavors that promote changing the college going culture in Texas. She believes that, even with limited resources, if you raise the bar and provide the support, students will rise to your expectations. She is changing the college going culture and making access to higher education attainable."

As Vice Chair of the National League of United Latin American Citizens' Education Commission, Ms. Bobadilla was able to impact policies and raise awareness of the educational needs of Latino students in the PK-20 pipeline.

She served as Co-Chair of the Texas Education Summit and worked on the California Education Summit held at UCLA.

Through her service on the Board of Directors for the Dallas Summer Musicals, Ms. Bobadilla has been instrumental in providing students with the experience of a live musical performance. For many, this experience has been transformative.

Ms. Bobadilla has received countless honors throughout her illustrious career as a mentor and advocate. One of her most recent honors was her induction into the Woodrow Wilson High School Hall of Fame. She is the first Latino/a in the 75 years history of one of Dallas' oldest schools to receive this honor. She joins the ranks of Trammel Crow, Ruth Sharp Altshuler, Buddy Minyard, Congressman Lt. Col. Samuel Johnson, Attorney General Jim Mattox, and Heisman Trophy winners Davey O'Brien and Tim Brown to name just a few of the schools' Hall of Fame honorees. Among the most notable honors she has received are the following: SMU Profiles in Leadership Award, 2010; Commencement Speaker at Texas A & M University – Commerce, 2009; Hispanic 100 President's Award, 2008; GDHCC La Cima Leadership Award, 2008; Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's President's Award, 2008; City of Grand Prairie Historical Commission Medallion for Outstanding Service and Contributions, 2008; Ebby Rose of Distinction, presented by Ebby Halliday for enriching the lives of others through volunteerism, 2006; The Maura Award, women helping women, 2005; National LULAC Woman of the Year, 2004; The President's Call to Service Award, Corporation for National and Community Service, 2004; Outstanding Star of Texas, Texas Bank and The Fort Worth Club, 2004; The Great Women of Texas, *Most Influential Women honoree*, JP Morgan Chase and the Fort Worth Business Press, 2003; Raymond Telles Award for Excellence in Education, *highest national award given by National LULAC*, 2003; Michele Bobadilla Bridge to Excellence Scholarship, established by UT Arlington President Dr. Robert E. Witt to honor her leadership and community outreach efforts, 2002; Induction into the National LULAC Women's Hall of Fame, 2002; and possibly most dear to her is the H. Ross Perot Excellence in Teaching Award she received in 1986 for the incredible strides made with the limited-English-speaking students she taught at Skyline High School in Dallas.

Ms. Bobadilla credits her family, mentors, and community for cultivating and nurturing her involvement and passion for community service.