



Texas Governor's Commission for Women Newsletter

Fall 2006

The Governor's Commission for Women promotes opportunities for Texas women through outreach, education, research and referral services.



Commission Launches New Brochure

The Governor's Commission for Women, in our continuing efforts to keep pace with the ever-evolving face of Texas women, has undergone a makeover of our own. We are pleased to announce the release of a new and improved identity brochure for the Commission. The brochure outlines the Commission's purpose, the issues we're currently focused on, and what we're doing to protect, promote, encourage and honor Texas women. Download a copy of the brochure at www.governor.state.tx.us/women. As the cover says, *We Are Texas Women* -- and we're looking better than ever!

Upcoming Events

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| September 28 | Breast Cancer Awareness Press Event and Reception |
| October 11 | Texas Women's Hall of Fame 2006 Induction Ceremony |
| October 12 | Seventh Annual Texas Conference for Women |
| October 20 | National Mammography Day |

Save the date of March 27, 2007 as the commission celebrates its 40th anniversary

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month



The Governor's Commission for Women is co-hosting a breast cancer awareness press event and reception at the Texas State Capitol on September 28. We invite you to join us on the south steps of the Capitol at 10:00 a.m. This event is free to attend and open to the public.

Texas First Lady Anita Perry and Dr. Eduardo Sanchez, Commissioner of the Department of State Health Services, will speak and breast cancer survivors will share their personal stories. A reception will follow in the Lieutenant Governor's Reception Room.

For ten years, this annual event has raised awareness and educated women about breast cancer, especially the importance of detecting the disease in its early stages through screening, mammography, clinical breast examinations and breast-self examinations.

In the United States, one out of seven women will develop breast cancer in her lifetime. Fortunately, significant progress in mammography technology is helping physicians diagnose the disease earlier and new treatment options mean more comfortable treatments and improved outcomes. Today, there are more than two million breast cancer survivors in the United States.

What: Breast Cancer Awareness Event

When: September 28 at 10:00 am

Where: South steps of the Capitol

National Mammography Day

National Mammography Day is October 20th. On this day and throughout the month, many radiologists provide discounted or free screening and mammograms for qualifying women. To find a local facility participating in National Mammography Day, please contact the National Cancer Institute's cancer information service at 800/4-CANCER. Additionally, throughout the year, low cost or free mammography screening is available to women who are over 50 and underinsured or un-insured. For more information, contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at 888/842-6355 or visit their website at: www.cdc.gov.

For more information please visit the website at www.nbcam.org or call 312/596-3557.

Texas Women's Hall of Fame

The Governor's Commission for Women established the Texas Women's Hall of Fame in 1984 to honor the State's most accomplished women. Inductees include first ladies, teachers, astronauts, and athletes.

We invite you to join us on October 11th at 3:30 p.m. for the 2006 Texas Women's Hall of Fame. The event is free to attend and open to the public. Parking is available in the Capitol Visitors Parking Garage at 1201 San Jacinto, located between Trinity and San Jacinto Streets and 12th and 13th Streets. For more information, please contact the Governor's Commission for Women at 512/475-2615.

The Governor's Commission for Women is pleased to announce the 2006 honorees:

Education

Dr. Shirley Neeley, Texas Commissioner of Education, has dedicated herself to ensuring that every Texas child receives a first-class education, so that they can become both productive citizens

and lifelong learners. After Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Dr. Neeley was essential in welcoming evacuees into Texas schools.

Leadership

Kathy Foster is the co-founder and director of Casa de Esperanza de los Niños. This organization cares for so-called "border babies"—children left in hospitals to die due to AIDS and HIV-positive children. Kathy Foster's dream of a Casa de Esperanza has grown into an organization that has a full-time staff of 45, a budget of over \$2 million and a volunteer force of over 350.

Health/Health Research

Dr. Ellen Vitetta is professor of microbiology and director of the Cancer Immunology Center at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School. She has pioneered the development of immunotoxins for lymphoma, breast cancer, and AIDS. She is Texas' first female medical student elected to the National Academy of Sciences. Dr. Vitetta has authored more than 450 scientific articles and ranks as one of the top 20 female scientists in any field of research.

Arts

Amanda Dunbar is an art prodigy who picked up a paintbrush for the first time at age 13 and went on to become one of the most talked about, collectible and dynamic young artists in the country. In addition to her artwork, Ms. Dunbar's Angel Alliance has contributed more than \$500,000 of support to schools and other youth programs for art materials and curriculum, so they can offer children the opportunity to express themselves through art.

What: Texas Women's Hall of Fame Ceremony

When: October 11, 2006 at 3:30pm

Where: Senate Chamber, Texas State Capitol

Visit the Hall of Fame

In March of 2003, the Governor's Commission for Women established the permanent Texas Women's Hall of Fame exhibit featuring the biographies and photographs of the 122 recipients. We invite you to visit the exhibit, which is located inside Hubbard Hall on the campus of Texas Woman's University in Denton, Texas.



Texas Conference for Women

This year more than 7,500 people will attend the annual Texas Conference for Women on October 12, 2006. Conference attendees will have the opportunity to participate in break-out sessions and hear more than 75 inspiring speakers.

The speakers will include **Martha Stewart**, designer of Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia, author of award winning novels and best-selling books, and creator of an Emmy Award winning television show; **Nancy G. Brinker**, former Ambassador to Hungary and founder of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation; and **Yolanda Adams**, Grammy Award-Winning gospel singer and spokesperson of the FILA Corporation's Operation Rebound program.

Please stop by the Governor's Commission for Women booth in the exhibit hall for a chance to win a Nordstrom gift basket.

What: Texas Conference for Women

When: October 12, 2006 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Where: Austin Convention Center

For more information, please visit:

www.txconferenceforwomen.org.

United Way Information Hotline 211

United Way's information hotline is an excellent way to get the assistance you need or find ways to help others. United Way provides information regarding taxes, alcohol and drug programs, child care services, community resources, counseling or support groups, financial aid resources, parent support and education, senior services, volunteer opportunities, youth recreation and more. This national information and referral service is confidential and available 24-hours-a-day, seven days a week. The staff speaks English and Spanish and provides access to a multi-language line service.

For more information call 211 or visit:
www.211.org.

No Excuse for Abuse

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. If you or someone you know is in an abusive relationship, it is time to get help.

For help or more information about domestic abuse in Texas visit the Texas Council on Family Violence at: www.tcfv.org or if your computer and internet use may be monitored please call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 800/799-SAFE (7233) or TTY 800/787-3224.

Commissioners:

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Cynthia Jenkins	Becky McKinley
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Please visit our website at:

www.governor.state.tx.us/women

If you have received this newsletter from a friend or colleague, and would like to receive future issues of the Governor's Commission for Women e-newsletter, email: women@governor.state.tx.us.

If you would like to be removed from the e-newsletter mailing list, Please email: women@governor.state.tx.us and write "unsubscribe" in the subject line.