

Taking Leadership to New Heights



2014 annual report American Leadership Forum Houston/Gulf Coast Chapter

2014 HIGHLIGHTS

1025

Fellows in the Houston network have experienced personal and professional growth, developed long lasting bonds with relationships of mutual trust and continue to provide effective skilled service to the community

over 1000 Fellows participated in ALF events

representing 702
corporations and organizations
across the greater Houston area

96
effective and enlightened leaders
were trained in collaboration and
consensus building (includes Grad Class 2)

\$155,000 in scholarships were awarded to 36 individuals

COUNTLESS

networks were expanded, collaborations formed, opinions heard, and coalitions created to build a more effective community in the Houston/Gulf Coast area



Message from the Chair

2014 was a transitional year on the global stage, here in Houston and for the American Leadership Forum (ALF).

Around the world transition was felt as battles in Gaza resumed, Pro-Democracy protests took place in Hong Kong, Ebola attacked West Africa, ISIS declared an Islamic Caliphate, the Affordable Health Care Act was rolled out, and protests erupted in Ferguson, Missouri that sparked a vigorous debate about law enforcement's relationship with African-Americans and police use of force.

In Houston, possibilities were put forth for repurposing the Astrodome, declining oil prices tested the economy, a high-speed train from Houston to Dallas was proposed and a throng of child refugees and unaccompanied minors crossed the Texas border and into our city.

Here at the Houston/Gulf Coast Chapter of ALF, Daniel W. Snare

joined as President, Rayanne Darensbourg began serving as Director of Development, and I began my service as Chair. We offered 20 events for Fellows to engage in dialogue, explore contemporary issues affecting our community and inspire action. In 2014, 96 leaders were trained in collaboration and consensus building in three classes as well as a Graduate program for Senior Fellows to reconnect after their Fellows Program year, and as a result countless collaborations were formed.

How would 2014 have been different if leaders around the world utilized the four-player model in conversations... had the opportunity to build trust, genuine relationships and collaborations before taking on major challenges? ALF provides these opportunities and joins and strengthens leaders to carry these lessons forward. I hope you'll join me in embracing dialogue and servant leadership and building ALF to enrich our great city, the people who live here and those they interact with near and far.

\ Jim Drew

ALF Board Chair, Class XXIII



Message from the President

Working for ALF "is my dream job" and countless Senior Fellows have heard me say those exact words many times during my first year serving as your President of the Houston/Gulf Coast Chapter.

I feel even more connected to the mission of joining and strengthening diverse leaders to serve the common good as I see and participate in our important work every day. Several highlights of 2014 stand out for me:

It was a great privilege to join Classes XXXI and XXXII as well as Community Development Class 1 as they concluded their fellowship year and produced thoughtful and impactful community dialogues.

Working with Class XXXIII, Class XXXIV and Criminal Justice Class 5 was incredibly rewarding as they embarked on their learning journey, built their community and shared their wilderness experience.

Twenty-six Senior Fellows renewed their ALF journey as a part of Graduate Class 2. It was particularly gratifying to see individuals ranging from ALF Class I all the way through very recent graduates updating their knowledge, building new relationships and continuing their commitment to the ALF values of diversity, dialogue and community service.

We created a powerful video showcasing ALF's personal and community impact in the words of several Houston Senior Fellows. The video was generously produced by Minerva Perez (Class XXXI) and can be viewed on the ALF website. I encourage you to share it

with colleagues and other civic-minded opinion leaders who should know about our work and those who should be candidates for future ALF classes.

We were deeply honored to recognize Dan Wolterman and Janiece Longoria at the 2014 Jaworski Award Dinner. More than \$220,000 was raised to continue our leadership capacity building service to our community, including granting scholarships that insure that all deserving leaders are able to participate regardless of financial considerations.

Original horse paintings, created and generously donated by architect C.C. Lee (Class XXI), were showcased and sold to support ALF programming at an event celebrating the Chinese Year of the Horse.

More than 50 Senior Fellows joined in dialogue with attorney Nicole Cásarez; Chief Public Defender, Alex Bunin; and Judge Kristin Guiney (all Senior Fellows of our Criminal Justice classes) to explore the implications of wrongful convictions in our criminal justice system. They were able to hear and learn from the first-hand experience of Anthony Graves who Ms. Cásarez helped to eventually gain exoneration after he spent 18 years on death row for a murder that he did not commit.

I am extremely proud of our accomplishments in 2014 and want to thank each of our volunteers, board members, committee members and generous donors for making these services possible. We proudly serve as a catalyst for positive change in our community, our region and our world. Together we continue to increase the capacity of our diverse leaders to better serve our common good. Again, I thank each of you for your contribution to our work and invite you to continue to join us in service throughout 2015.

Dan Snare

ALF President, Medical Class 5

Class XXXII Community Dialogue



AGING OUT OF HOUSTON'S FOSTER CARE SYSTEM

Among the young adults leaving foster care within 12 to 18 months:

31-42% had been arrested

18-26% were incarcerated

40-60% of the young women were pregnant

A study in May 2013 found that for every young person who ages out of foster care, taxpayers and communities pay \$300,000 in social costs such as public assistance, incarceration and lost wages over that person's lifetime.

Despite the best efforts of Child Protective Services and various nonprofits, many of these young adults have difficulty accessing benefits to which they are entitled; the benefits do not meet all their needs; or they may no longer qualify for assistance.

These disturbing statistics catalyzed the Class XXXII Dialogue on "Aging Out of Houston's Foster Care System", held on May 15. Classmates were deeply concerned about the high failure rates of aged-out foster youth. Participants in the dialogue, including attorneys, judges, mental health professionals and other community members passionate about this issue, heard from many young adults who were part of the Foster Care System before they reached age 18.

After the event, one participant wrote, "I can't express how meaningful your class dialogue was today. I was moved to tears by the stories of these beautiful, brilliant, resilient, courageous young people and wanted to take them all home with me. We should never give up trying to prevent child abuse and neglect and use their voices to make the system better for those who will be hurt despite our best efforts."

The class dialogue inspired many attendees and catalyzed further community action. Eva Guzman (Class XXII), Justice, Texas Supreme Court, was deeply influenced by the dialogue and asked Bonnie Hellums (Class XVIII), Judge - 247th Family District Court, Harris County/State of Texas, to make a report about the dialogue to the Supreme Court of Texas Permanent

Judicial Commission for Children, Youth and Families in Austin the next day, so that other members of the Commission could hear about the important discussion.

This group of community leaders from Class XXXII recognized the collaborative value that a combined model of mentorship, existing resources and funding could have on addressing some of the barriers that stand in the way of their educational and vocational success. As a result, several members of their class developed "The Foster Success Initiative," a holistic program of mentorship, agency resources and gap funding to help young people who age-out of the Texas foster care system address some of the obstacles they experience. On November 5, the initiative was introduced to Houston community stakeholders and potential funding partners and included more than a dozen of the 25 aged-out foster youth who are in the pilot program.

One participant commented, "It was very inspiring to hear updates from the students that you highlighted and to hear how your initiatives are already providing a great deal of assistance for these young adults. In particular, I was very touched by comments from one of the young adults that I visited with. This young adult shared with me that he attended the first dialogue in May and 'it keeps getting better.' The youth added this time, 'I am able to open up more. I am honored to be part of this. I can see that our voice and opinion matter.'"

As a result, several members of their class developed "The Foster Success Initiative," a holistic program of mentorship, agency resources and gap funding to help young people who age-out of the Texas foster care system address some of the obstacles they experience.

Dialogue moderator, Jerome Gray (Class XXXII), VP & Senior Press Officer. METRO





Catalyzing Impact Around the Greater Houston Region

ALF Senior Fellows work, live and volunteer in nearly every neighborhood in the region.



2014 ALF Graduates

Class XXXI

Eddie Allen Senior Partner & Co-Founder Eagle Global Advisors

Jason Bernal President YES Prep Public Schools

Mark Campsey Community Volunteer

June Christensen CEO Society for the Performing Arts

Susie Crafton President Apeira Revenue Solutions

Beverly Denver Executive Editor & Publisher Houston Woman Magazine

Can Dogan VP for Administrative Affairs North American College

Greg Knight Division VP Customer Services CenterPoint Energy Gigi Lee President Asia Houston Network

Melaney Linton President & CEO Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast

Marc Melcher Vice President Merrill Lynch

Jacob M. Monty Managing Partner Monty & Ramirez, LLP

Sherry Mose Chairman Houston Municipal Employees Pension System

Xavier Pena Vice President of Finance and General Counsel Houston Endowment, Inc.

Minerva Perez Creator/Producer Latina Voices: Smart Talk; Minerva Perez Media LLC

Theola Petteway Executive Director OST/Almeda Corridors Redevelopment Authority Jackie Phillips Vice President of Ethics & Compliance Spectra Energy Corporation

Sanjay Ram Vice President CP&Y, Inc.

Omar Reid Director of Human Resources City of Houston

Mary K. Ryder Sr. VP-Chief of Staff to CEO Cadence Bank

Sam Sarabia Chief School Officer HISD

Taryn Sims President and Principal Wulfe Management Services

Juliet Stipeche Assistant Secretary, District VIII, Board of Ed. HISD

Class XXXII

Gregory J. Armstrong President & CEO WEDGE Group Incorporated.

Genora K. Boykins Asst. Regional General Counsel NRG Energy, Inc.

Kofi Burney Chief - Infrastructure and Applications Office NASA

Dee Dee Dochen President DDD Marketing Communications

Luz Flores Senior Director Marketing, HR, IT and Administrative Services AVANCE-Houston

Sheri Foreman Elder President & CEO Houston Center for Literacy

Jonathon Glus President & CEO Houston Arts Alliance Jerome Gray VP & Senior Press Officer METRO

Janice Hale-Harris Senior Manager Waste Management

Jenifer Jarriel
President & CEO
DePelchin Children's Center

Suzie Jones Executive Vice President Amegy Bank of Texas

Bernice J. Joseph Chief Operating Officer The Rose

Eric Marin Director Sirius Solutions

Kathryn McNiel CEO Houston Theatre District

Ernesto Paredes Director of Parks and Recreation City of Galena Park

Diana Pino Vice Chancellor for Student Services Houston Community College

Steve Rosencranz Founder/President The Woods Project, Inc.

Sehba Sarwar Artistic Director/Founder Voices Breaking Boundaries

John Simon CEO Bennu Oil and Gas

Vanessa Sola CPA/Shareholder Frierson Sola & Associates

Carel Stith Attorney Carel Stith Attorney At Law

Susanne Theis
Programming Director
Discovery Green

Steve Vetrano CEO Red Cross Greater Houston Area Chapter

Community Development 1

Reginald Adams CEO & Founder Reginald C. Adams LLC

Alvin Byrd Chief of Staff Council Member Richard Nguyen, District F

Rev. Kevin Collins Pastor Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

Dameion Crook Principal Young Men's College Preparatory Academy

Rayanne F. Darensbourg, MPA Director of Development American Leadership Forum

Jessica Diaz Graduate Student, Executive Masters in Public Leadership Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin

Stephan Fairfield President & CEO Covenant Community Capital Corporation

Rev. John Fields Minister First Shiloh Baptist Church/ Near Northside Management District

Bolivar Fraga Community Developer Neighborhood Centers

Maritza Guerrero President & CEO Community Family Centers

Toni Jackson Partner Jones Walker

Marcie Mir Chief Executive Officer El Centro de Corazon

Bridgette Murray President Pleasantville Super Neighborhood Council

Karen Niemeier Eastwood Civic Association Assistant Contracts Director UT Health Science Center

Steven Parker President Greater Eastwood, Lawndale & Wayside Super Neighborhood Co-Council

Kathy Flanagan Payton President & CEO 5th Ward CRC lan Rosenberg Project Manager/Buffalo Bayou Partnership Principal/INFILL Planning & Development LLC

Charles Savage Executive Director Fifth Ward Enrichment Program, Inc.

Diane Schenke President Greater East End Management District

Alesia Shealey Co-Founder & Executive Director Cane River Gardens, Inc.

Anton Sinkewich Executive Director East Downtown Management District

Brian Stoker Senior Vice President Amegy Bank

Katye Tipton Director of Neighborhoods City of Houston

Sherry Weesner Director of Projects Scenic Houston

Graduate Class 2

Reginald Adams CEO & Founder Reginald C. Adams LLC

Matt Barnes Owner BarneslStrategies

Cathy Brock Community Volunteer

Grace Butler President & CEO Hope Through Grace

Anna Dragsbaek President & CEO The Immunization Partnership

Senior Vice President Bowen, Miclette & Britt, Inc.

Karen Dupont Captain/EMS Supervisor Houston Fire Department

Claudette Edwards Founder/CEO TX SKIP

Mike Falick Partner Rothfelder and Falick LLP

Abdel Fustok Plastic Surgeon Institute of Cosmetic Surgery

Sangeeta Gad Houston PREP Coordinator U of H - Downtown Beatrice Garza President & CEO AAMA, Inc.

Janelle James Superintendent Southwest Schools & Young Learners School

Linda May Retired, President/Executive Director The Simmons Foundation

Marion McCollam President McCollam Consulting LLC

Terrylin Neale President University of Houston Foundation

Susan Osterberg Educator University of Houston

Priscilla Plumb Consultant Laity Lodge Leadership Initiative

Michele Pola Retired, Chief Business and Community Relations Officer HISD

Vince Ryan Attorney Harris County

Pamela Sailors Principal Southwest Schools

Clarissa Stephens Deputy Director Office of Criminal Justice Coordination

Susan Tortolero Professor Health Promotion and Behavioral Science, Epidemiology University of Texas

Minh Tran Attorney Minh Tran, PC

Emilee Whitehurst SVP Ext. Svcs Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast

Robert Wolin Partner Baker & Hostetler LLP

Forums and Dialogues

- Chez ALF—dinner and dialogue served at Senior Fellows' homes
- Reservations for Six- program designed exclusively for Senior Fellows to get to know one another in a small group setting
- Second Friday Breakfasts
 - Update on MATCH—Emily Todd and Jill Jewett (MATCH's acting Executive Director)
 - Local Impact of the ACA—Stephen Williams
 - -How Volunteers Can Help—It's Easy and It's Not— Steve Capper and Bob Wimpelberg
 - Houston Center for Sobriety—a Reflection on the First Year—Leonard Kincaid
 - Reflections on the First Year of the New Mobile Middle School, A+ Unlimited Potential, Houston A+ Challenge— Scott Van Beck and Paul Castro
 - -The Workforce and the Rationalization of the School Schedule...How are We Supposed to Lean In?— Leisa Holland-Nelson, Michele Pola, Jennifer Hines, Elizabeth Gregory and Carol Shattuck
 - Discussion on Traffic and Transit—Mayor Annise Parker, Alan Clark, Director of Transportation Planning,
 H-GAC, former Harris County Judge Robert Eckels and Jerome Gray
 - A Novel Healthcare Delivery System— Baxter Montgomery, MD
 - Gaps in the Future Workforce—Nory Angel,
 Brenda Hellyer, Ed.D. and Elaine Barber
 - Child Refugees and the Impact in Houston of Unaccompanied Minors Crossing the Texas Border— Marie Moreno, Cynthia Colbert and Maria Mitchell
 - Wrongful Convictions—Nicole Cásarez and Anthony Graves

Class Dialogues

- ALF's Vision for the Future—Class XXXI
- Aging Out of the Foster Care System—Class XXXII
- Best Methods to Encourage Quality Public Participation and Create High-Impact Community Engagement— Community Development 1
- Nonprofit Leadership Collaborative Forum 2014 featuring Dan Pallotta on his book, *Uncharitable*

Class Experiences and Curriculum

- Orientation—Camp Allen, Navasota, TX
- Wilderness Challenge—Lake George, Colorado
- Transformational Dialogue
- Experience as Other
- Leading is Convening
- Taking Stock Retreat
- Disruptive Innovation
- Houston Area Survey with Stephen Klineberg, Ph.D.
- Commencement
- Debrief Reunion

Other ALF Events

- ALF Annual Meeting—Boots and Buddies
- Joseph Jaworski Leadership Award Dinner, honoring Dan Wolterman, President and CEO, Memorial Hermann Health System and Janiece Longoria, Partner, Ogden Gibson Broocks Longoria & Hall, L.L.P. and Chairman, Port of Houston Authority

Community Development Class 1 Dialogue on Creating High-Impact Community Engagement





Donor Recognition

ALF values and appreciates all contributions made in support of our mission of joining and strengthening diverse leaders to serve the common good. ALF would like to acknowledge donors who have made significant contributions in support of our programming and scholarships, from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014 through Grants, the Annual Fund Membership Campaign, Jaworski Leadership Award Dinner, and Endowed Scholarship Funds.

\$50,000+

American Express Philanthropy

Harry Gee Family Fund Rockwell Fund, Inc.

Chevron

\$30,000

Houston Endowment, Inc.

\$10,000 - \$15,000

Peter J. Fluor and K.C. Weiner

H-E-B

Janiece Longoria and Stephen A. Lasher

Memorial Hermann

John Watson

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Dannenbaum Engineering Corporation

Melanie Gray/ Winston & Strawn LLP

Janet Gurwitch and

Ronald Franklin

Cecilia Hawkins Stan Marek/

Marek Brothers

MetroNational

John P. McGovern

Foundation

Shell Oil Company

Howard Tellepsen

Sheridan and John

Eddie Williams

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Amegy Bank

Cadence Bank

Gina Carroll

CenterPoint Energy

Donna Cole

Comerica Bank

Jim Drew

ExxonMobil

Friedkin Group, Inc.

Holthouse Foundation

for Kids

Houston Community College

Houston First Corporation

Houstonian Hotel, Club & Spa

Leon Jaworski Foundation

Bill King

Locke Lord LLP

Nancy McGregor Manne

Ron Martin/UHY

LLP Certified Public

Accountants

Norton Rose Fulbright

Port of Houston Authority

Samuels Foundation

The Simmons Foundation

Daniel W. Snare

Tejas Office Products Inc.

Phoebe and Bobby Tudor

Art Tyler

David Underwood

University of Texas Health Science Center at

Houston

Harriet Wasserstrum

Fabené Welch

Dean Woods

Francene Young

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Pedro Alvarez

Gregory Armstrong/ WEDGE Group Inc.

Joni Baird

Ann and Matthew Barnes

Lan Bentsen

Leslie Blanton

Genora Boykins

Cathy and Gary Brock

Jo Carcedo

Frances Castaneda

Dyess

Peter and Theresa Chang

Michael Cordúa

Rayanne Darensbourg

Marian Davenport

Jessica Diaz

Robert Eckels

Leila Feldman

Reagan Flowers

Houston Federation

of Teachers

Kayser Foundation

Roland Garcia

Dorothy Gibbons

Sam Golden

Teresa Harris Winell Herron

IndemCo

Ken Janda

Richard Jennings

Patrick and Susan Kiley

Cathy Lamboley

Jeff B. and Katherine B.

Love Foundation

Paule Anne Lewis

Khambrel Marshall

George Martinez

Kathryn McNiel

Marc Melcher

Stacy Methvin

Sharon Murphy

Sarah Peterson Pam Potter

Janet Pozmantier

Lenox and John Reed

Beth Robertson

Regina Rogers

Abe Saavedra

Ben Samuels

Manuel Sanchez

Leslie Smith

Steve Stephens Mustafa Tameez

Mel Taylor

Emily Todd

Baldwin Tom

Ileana and Michael Trevino

Allan Van Fleet

Scott Van Beck

Barron Wallace

Judy Wallis

Elizabeth and Peter

Wareing

Bob Wimpelberg Anonymous

\$500 - \$999

Joan and Stanford

Alexander

Eddie Allen

Steve Amstutz

Paula Arnold Carol Atwood

Arthur and Philamena Baird

Binkley & Barfield, Inc.

Bud Light/Silver Eagle Distributors

Steve Capper

Nicole Cásarez

Les Cave

Rose Childs

Paul Colbert

Francis Cook

Cissy Davis

Olivia Dear

Ann Deaton

Jack Doherty

Anna Dragsbaek

John Esquivel

L B Capital, Inc.

Jo Lynn and Gregg

Falgout/Island Operating

Company

Gayle Fallon

Vaunette Fay

Rick Figueroa

Sheri Foreman Elder

Abdel Fustok Gwen Goffe

Jerome Gray

Jay Guerrero

Bonnie Hellums

Leisa Holland-Nelson

Houston Methodist

Hospital Craig Jackson

Sylvia Kerrigan

Stephen Klineberg Shari Koziol

Wea Lee

Melaney Linton

Renee Logans Cecilia Longoria and John

Rebecca Lunstroth

Crenshaw

Marvin Marcell Eric Marin

Vidal Martinez

Nancy McGregor Manne

Trini Mendenhall-Sosa Gasper Mir, III

Bridgette Murray

Yolanda Navarro

Leslie Nelson Susan Osterberg

Tina Paez

Imogen Papadopoulos

Kathy Payton

Xavier Pena

Melinda Perrin

Gilda Ramirez

Brian Reed

Renee Reimer

Celina Ridge Carole Riggs

Pam Sailors

Vic Samuels

Diane Scardino

Steve Schnee

Susan Sclafani

Randy Sim

Taryn Sims

David Smith

Julie Spier

John Stanton Lois Stark

Susan Stasney

Ann Stern Cynthia Pickett Stevenson

Tom Tellepsen

Sylvester Turner

Jose Villarreal

Sherry Weesner

Andrea White John Wilson

George Yang Susan Young

Ed Wulfe

Other

David Underwood, Jr.



2014 Joseph Jaworski Leadership Award Dinner

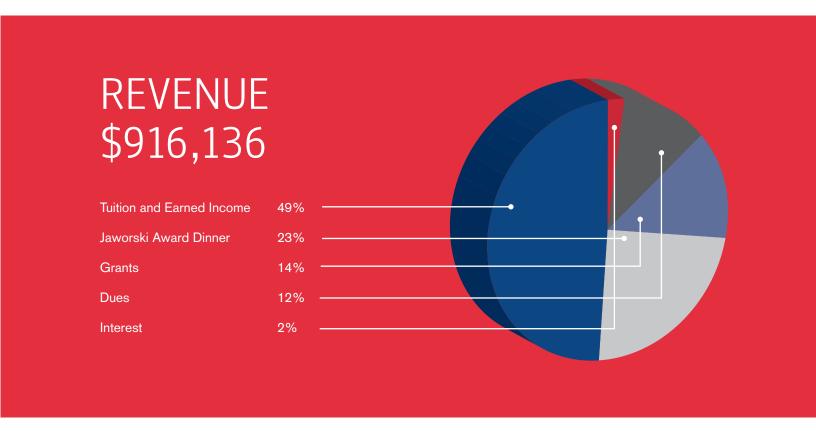
The annual Joseph Jaworski Leadership Award Dinner was held Wednesday, April 23, 2014. Each year this award is given to someone who exemplifies the American Leadership Forum's mission of joining and strengthening diverse leaders to serve the common good. The 2014 award recognized Dan Wolterman, President & CEO, Memorial Hermann Health System, as a leader who exemplifies ALF's principles of inclusiveness, service and leadership. He guided the development of a highly successful self-governing physician organization with more than 2,200 clinically integrated physicians into a leading CMS-designated Accountable Care Organization and has been recognized as one of *Modern Healthcare Magazine*'s Top 100 Most Powerful People in Healthcare each year since 2008.

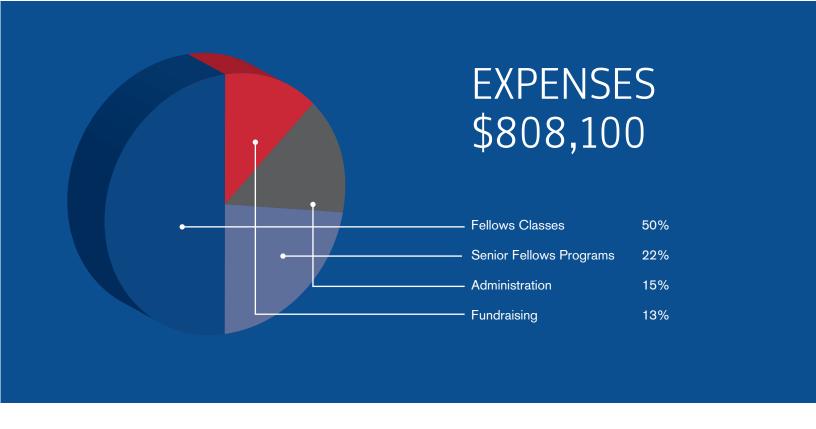
The ALF Public Service Award was presented to Janiece Longoria (Class X), Partner, Ogden Gibson Broocks Longoria & Hall, L.L.P. and Chairman, Port of Houston Authority, who epitomizes ALF's goal of public service. Her service on the boards of the Greater Houston Partnership, CenterPoint Energy, MD Anderson Cancer Center, the Texas Medical Center and the University of Texas Board of Regents are just a few examples of her tremendous contributions to our community.

Thanks to the 415 guests who attended the Jaworski Leadership Award Dinner, ALF was able to raise more than \$220,000 after expenses.

Finance

For 2014, ALF had revenues of approximately \$916,136 and expenses of \$808,100. At year-end, ALF had investment assets of over \$2.4 million, of which \$1.4 million is in the Endowed Scholarship Fund.





2014 Board

Officers

Jim Drew Chair

Paula Arnold

Immediate Past Chair

Marian Davenport

Vice Chair

Bonnie Hellums

Secretary

Les Cave

Treasurer

Joni Baird

Matthew Barnes

Donald Bowers

Rogene Calvert

Gina Carroll

Frances Castaneda Dyess

Mark Ellis

John Farrell

Richard Figueroa

Reagan Flowers

Jay Guerrero

Cecilia Hawkins

Leisa Holland-Nelson

Sylvia Kerrigan

Stan Marek

Sharon Murphy

Leslie Nelson

Susan Osterberg

Sarah Peterson

Janet Pozmantier

Judson Robinson

Randhir Sahni

Randy Sim

Rhonda Smith

Judy Wallis

John Watson

Bob Wimpelberg

Staff

Daniel W. Snare

President

Rayanne Darensbourg

Director of Development

Rebecca Block

Communications Manager

Celene Keserich

Administrative Assistant



Mission Statement

The American Leadership Forum (ALF) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to join and strengthen diverse leaders to serve the common good.

HOUSTON/ GULF COAST CHAPTER

Printing generously underwritten by



American Leadership Forum - Houston/Gulf Coast Chapter