
DALLAS REGIONAL CHAMBER®

Press Release

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dallas Regional Chamber Announces 40th Class of Leadership Dallas

Emerging leaders have been selected to participate in Leadership Dallas, the region's premier leadership development program.

DALLAS (August 8, 2014) – The Dallas Regional Chamber is pleased to announce the 40th class of Leadership Dallas, the premier leadership development program in the region.

“The Leadership Dallas Class of 2015 has been selected based on their commitment to the Dallas community as well as their high potential for leadership,” said Dale Petroskey, President and CEO of the Dallas Regional Chamber. “We are proud to welcome these talented, committed individuals into the program, and look forward to working with them. Leadership Dallas is a real commitment, and these individuals will spend many hours gaining a deeper understanding of what makes the Dallas region a great place to live, work, and play. When their year is completed, each one of them will better appreciate this community, be in a better position to play a leadership role in helping make the Dallas region even better than it already is, and gain some life-long friends and colleagues.”

Leadership Dallas, founded in 1975, prepares diverse leaders to serve as catalysts and sustainers of positive change for the quality of life in the Dallas region. The program is not a starting point, but rather a professional development opportunity for men and women who are both acknowledged and aspiring leaders.

This ten-month educational program enables participants to develop their leadership capabilities as they build strong relationships with fellow classmates and current community leaders. Through lectures, discussion groups, on-site visits, simulations, class projects, and other leadership development activities, the participants receive in-depth exposure to the critical issues facing the community and are challenged to apply their talents towards these issues for years to come.

“Leadership Dallas participants dive deep into the history and current affairs of the Dallas region focusing on the challenges we are facing as a community. Through this extensive exploration, they often find passion for issues previously unknown to them,” said Kari Nelson, Director of Leadership for the Dallas Regional Chamber. “It is our hope that each Leadership Dallas graduate is able to use the knowledge and enhanced leadership skills gained through the program to influence positive change for the future of the Dallas region as experienced and dedicated community leaders.”

In 39 years, Leadership Dallas has graduated more than 1,900 men and women who continue to provide leadership in the region. Among them, nearly 250 Alums have achieved the top executive role at their current organization, 32 have founded their own business, two are former police chiefs, two are former U.S. Ambassadors, one is a former U.S. Attorney and ten are currently serving as elected officials at the city, state or national level.

The members of the 40th class of Leadership Dallas are:

Brad Adams	The Brinkmann Corporation
Sam Bagchi	Methodist Health System
Yasmin Barnes	City of Dallas
Jennifer Bishop	JPMorgan
Colleen T. Brinkmann, CFRE	North Texas Food Bank
Mark Buskuhl	HKS, Inc.
Elaine Chambers	IBM
Brent Chaney	Energy Future Holdings
Michelle Chase	Wee Volunteer
Summer Collins	Children’s Medical Center Dallas
Pedro Correa	Bain & Company
Kevin Curley II	UBS Financial Services Inc.
Corey Davison	Tenet Healthcare
Tricia DeLeon	Bracewell & Giuliani LLP
Kara DeVita	AT&T
Derek Downs	Halff Associates
Tara Dunn	The Concilio
Mary Farnsworth	PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Jeff Forbes	The Beck Group
Andrew Fortin	Associa
Diane Fullingim	Ronald McDonald House of Dallas
Kirsten Gappelberg	Mary Kay Inc.
Neeta Goel	Newt Global Consulting
Alexandra Hales	Teach for America
Raul Hinojosa Jr.	The University of Texas at Dallas
Stephen Jones	Law Offices of Stephen E. Jones, P.C.
Barry Krieger	JQ
Holly Kuzmich	George W. Bush Presidential Center
Kathryn Lake	The Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute for Texas
Jodi Lash	J Lash & Company

John Lesikar	Comerica
Caren Lock	TIAA-CREF
Larry Lundy	Lundy Marketing Group
Jenny Lurkins	Regions Bank
Elsa Manzanares	Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP
Suzanne Massey	SMU
Thomas McBride	Merrill Lynch
Matt McDonald	Corgan
Sara McEown	Jackson Walker L.L.P.
Nikki Mitchell	Baylor Scott & White Health
Meredith Mosley	Junior League of Dallas
Heidi Murray	Leadership Women
Suresh Narayanan	Aerospace Quality Research and Development
Courtney Naudo	Deloitte
Mircea Negrea	Carpathian Concepts, LLC
Laura Nieto	Southwest Airlines
Patricia Niles	Southwest Transplant Alliance
Mandisa Price	Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP
Michael Raftery	Turner Construction Company
Scott Rhea	Wells Fargo Bank
Christopher Rogers	Haynes and Boone, LLP
J. Mark Roppolo	PegasusAblon
Megan Steinbach	Frost
Neal Suit	Carrington Coleman Sloman & Blumenthal LLP
LuAnn Tarango	Texas Instruments
Scott C. Turner	Texas Health Resources
Lisa Weaver	Interaction Associates

For more Leadership Dallas information visit: www.dallaschamber.org/leadership

About the Dallas Regional Chamber

The Dallas Regional Chamber is the area's leading membership-driven business organization committed to promoting economic prosperity by leading economic development, driving improvements in public education, influencing public policy, and catalyzing and advocating for regional partnerships. The Chamber works to ensure the Dallas region will become the most economically prosperous region - and the most desirable place to live and work - in the United States. The Chamber is a not-for-profit organization comprised of businesses, which represent all facets of the North Texas business community. For more information, please contact the Dallas Regional Chamber at (214) 746-6600 or visit www.dallaschamber.org.

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