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News

FOR EXTRAORDINARY MEMBERS

From Our Founder



Has anyone ever breezed into your life and then just as quickly breezed out, but in the process they left you forever changed? That's what happened to me at our Speaker Series last month, and it happened to our members, too. I know this because I've received emails and phone calls telling me so. In the process of being entertained by three extraordinary women, we were called to reflect on our own lives and examine our personal attitudes about success, authenticity, contentment and intention. We will choose to take action, or not, based on our



Pick-up your copy today featuring our own Rebecca Powers on the cover!

You can also go to www.austinwomanmagazine.com to read the full article online.

Speaker Series Recap

An Inspirational Evening

Our 2009 Speaker Series event was a magical and memorable evening with more than 140 women in attendance. Three inspirational women took the stage in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere and challenged each person in the audience to be their most authentic self. Kristin Armstrong, Caroline Boudreaux and Lorin Beller Blake reminded us that we can and do make a difference in the lives of others and in our community. Thanks to these wonderful women for sharing of themselves and their experiences.

action, or not, based on our individual motivations.

I am proud to lead an organization that believes it has a social responsibility to offer its members learning opportunities like this. Impact Austin is more than reviewing grant applications. It's more than 500 women giving \$1000 annually. It's a caring community of committed members who believe that making improvements in their personal lives will pay dividends collectively where they work and live.

Please share Impact Austin and all that we are with a friend soon! The economy is challenging this year, and we need everyone's help in reaching our goal. Thank you for believing in our mission and vision...and for sharing it with others. I look forward to seeing you at the finish line on December 31st with 500+ members who have invested in our success!

-Rebecca Powers,
Founder and CEO

Mark Your Calendar

Member Orientation

(for current and new members who want to learn more about Impact Austin)

Friday, November 13,
11:30pm-1:00pm

or

Monday, December 14,
7:00pm-8:30pm

Location: Rebecca Powers' home

11107 Callanish Park Drive,
Austin, TX 78750

Focus Area Committee (FAC) Orientation

(for members who plan to participate on an FAC this upcoming year and have not participated on an FAC in the past)

Tuesday, December 8,
6:00-7:30pm

Location: The Commons Room at
Laura's Library
9411 Bee Cave Road, Austin,
Texas 78733

Wednesday, January 6,
6:00-7:30pm

Location: The Gathering Room at
Westbank Library



Kristin Armstrong, Caroline Boudreaux, and
Lorin Beller Blake with members of Impact Austin

Membership Update

Fall Recruitment Underway

Our fall recruiting season is in full swing and our greatest resource in meeting our membership goal is you. Thank you for your support and participation in our coffees and other recruitment events. Each Impact Austin member has her own Impact Austin story. Share yours with a friend!

We have many coffees planned at our members' homes this fall. You are encouraged to invite a friend or two to join you at one of these events.

Please contact Becky Griner at bgriner@impact-austin.org for details.

Monday, November 9 (zip code 78738)

Thursday, November 12 (78676)

Monday, November 16 (78703)

Tuesday, November 17 (78701)

Thursday, November 19 (78731)

Monday, November 30 (78731)

Thursday, December 2 (78751--pm & 78759--am)

Wednesday, December 9 (78703)

Thursday, December 10 (78746)

Tuesday, December 15 (78746)

Member Orientation: Do you want to know more about Impact Austin?

At these sessions, members learn more about our brief history, organizational structure and volunteer opportunities. It's a great way to meet other members as we learn together. Members, whether seasoned or new, are invited to attend an orientation. Please refer to the 'Mark Your Calendar' section of this newsletter for dates and

1309 Westbank Dr, Austin, TX
78746

Thursday, January 7,
6:00-7:30pm
Location TBD

Discovery Day

(educational forum for members to learn about current issues and trends in each focus area)

Saturday, January 9,
9:00am-12:30pm

Location: St. David's Episcopal Church
301 E. 8th Street
Austin, TX 78701

Volunteer Perspective

My first exposure to G3 was when the Sister to Sister (S2S) program of Big Brothers Big Sisters became a finalist for the G3 Grant last year. As a "big sister" and a long time participant in S2S, I was fortunate enough to get to be a part of the grant presentation and got to share my experiences as a big sister. (Since then, I have become one of the leaders of S2S). Not having heard of G3 before this opportunity, I began to research them and subsequently found out about Impact Austin. I was amazed at what a tremendous difference this group of young women was making in the community and was eager to meet them.



locations. To register or ask questions, please contact Becky Griner at bgriner@impact-austin.org.

Impact through Involvement

Stay Tuned - Impact Austin 2010 Focus Area Committees

Are you interested in learning about the grant giving process and the various non-profits serving the needs of our community? Would you like to collaborate with a diverse group of women who are responsible for reviewing Impact Austin grant applications and choosing the finalists our members vote on to receive our funding?

If so, consider participating on a Focus Area Committee (FAC). There are five committees, one for each of the Impact Austin funding areas: culture, education, environment, family and health and wellness. Participation on a FAC requires a time commitment of 40-50 hours beginning mid-January and continuing through mid-May. This commitment includes training, 5-6 committee meetings, individual and team research, 2-3 site visits once semi-finalists are identified and additional work with the finalists prior to the annual meeting. It is a labor intensive and rewarding experience.

Watch for an email in early November providing more information on the FAC sign-up process. Or, for additional information contact Nancy Sutherland at nsutherland@impact-austin.org.

Community Partner Spotlight

Latino Arts Preservation Program

The Latino Arts Preservation Program at Southwest Key has achieved great success since it was funded by Impact Austin in June 2008. Originally set to impact 1500 to 2000 members of the Johnston/Govalle population, it has exceeded that goal by serving 2,045 individuals to date. The program is divided into three art form categories including ballet folklorico, mariachi, and bilingual theater.



Tamara (middle) with G3 members
Aubree Brown and Julie Biemer

On the day of our site visit the girls that came were incredibly courteous and professional. They asked strong questions and were very well prepared. I was impressed with the whole process. I kept in contact with Dina during the months following the site visit and one morning I got to work and there was an email from her that said simply, "Would you like to volunteer with Girls Giving Grants?" I wrote back immediately and said, "I WOULD LOVE TO!" I am honored to get to be an advisor for G3 this year. I have so much to learn but already it's been so much fun! It is so important to empower young women and Girls Giving Grants definitely enables these girls to become strong and independent.

-Tamara Faraone

What does your membership mean to you and what would you like others to know about Impact Austin? We'd love to hear your story!

To share your story, please email Anne Webster at awebster@impact-austin.org

Connect with Us

We invite you to connect with Impact Austin's social media community. This is a great way to keep in touch with other Impact Austin members and stay up-to-date on our current events. Please join us on:



And don't forget to check out **Rebecca's Blog** at: <http://impactaustinblog.wordpress.com/>



Latino Arts mariachi performance

These classes have enabled families to come together and celebrate their heritage and culture. Parents enjoy classes with their children and perform together on stage, singing mariachi ballads that tell stories of Mexico's past. Mothers of ballet folklorico children work together and create the hair ribbons and accessories their daughters wear while whirling their skirts in the folkloric dance tradition. Siblings perform alongside on stage in full costume and make-up as they tell stories in both English and Spanish through theater.

Southwest Key students have been invited to perform outside of the community at venues such as the Mariachi Convention at Travis High School, the Cesar Chavez March at the Mexican American Cultural Arts Center, the Hispanic Physicians' Spring Banquet at the Austin Club, and recently, at the Hispanic Women's Network Convention at the Crown Plaza Hotel. Additionally, several ballet folklorico students met Texas Secretary of State, Hope Andrade. Friends at the Long Center and The Paramount have been generous and through their outreach programs have enabled students to attend professional arts performances like Peter and The Wolf, Cirque Mechanics, and Santa Fe Taiko.

The impact this program has had on this community has been astounding and the interest in the program continues to grow. Proyecto Teatro wants to partner with Southwest Key to use the bilingual theater as their outreach program. We continue to seek cultural arts funding from the City of Austin and other entities to help support and continue this much-needed program. Without the initial generous fund from Impact Austin, this program would not have been possible. Thank you Impact Austin, for helping Southwest Key make an "IMPACT" on this community.

Girls Giving Grants Five Years and Going Strong

Girls Giving Grants is entering its fifth year of collective giving. Fifty-seven members, including four of the eleven founding members (whose mothers are Impact Austin members), are leading the group: Oriana Wright, President; Madison Reinhart, Vice President; Mara Weidmann, Education Chair and Caroline Tulloh, ARC Chair. G3 welcomed a record 26 new members this year. Six dedicated adult leaders, including Erin Guyer and Jessica Dameron, both Impact Austin members, support the girls' efforts throughout the year. G3 received 51 grant applications this year. The members started reviewing these applications November 1st.

Over the past four years, G3 has awarded more than \$15,000 to the community. Past recipients include Hospice Austin's Camp Brave Heart, the Austin Children's Shelter, the Center for Child Protection and LifeWorks.



New G3 members

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