



NEWS

For Extraordinary Members

Mark Your Calendar

Community Membership Coffee

Monday, November 7th
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Lake Travis Wine Trader
2422 RR 620 South, Suite A-118
Lakeway, TX 78734 ([map](#))
[Click Here to Register](#)

In-Home Membership Coffees

Monday, October 24 @ 6:30 p.m.
zip code: 78730
Wednesday, October 26 @ 7 p.m.
zip code: 78723
Thursday, October 27 @ 7 p.m.
zip code: 78756
Thursday, November 3 @ 7 p.m.
zip code: 78731
Friday November 4 @ 6 p.m.
zip code: 78759

If you would like to attend one of these in-home coffees, please contact Liz Fitzgerald at efitzgerald@impact-austin.org

Speaker Series

A musical conversation with
Craig Hella Johnson and
Eliza Gilkyson
Tuesday, October 25, 2011
7:00 p.m.

Congregation Agudas Achim
7300 Hart Lane
Austin, TX 78731

**Registration fee: \$25 members/
\$35 non-members (\$2 credit card
fee) includes a CD from both artist**

[Click Here to Register](#)

Member Orientation

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

Wednesday, November 16th

**Please save the date and be on

the lookout for more information in

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Membership Update

The New Numbers to Look for This Year!



Our goal is 500 women joining together to make an IMPACT on our community through five high-impact grants. We are asking all new and returning members to please pay their membership donation by 11.11.11.

EXCITING NEWS! Becoming a member and donating to Impact Austin are now [available ONLINE](#) !

11.11.11 EAOs

the lookout for more information in your email soon!**

Focus Area Committee (FAC) Orientation

(For members who plan to participate on an FAC in 2012 and have not participated on an FAC in the past. Returning members are welcome, too!)

Monday, December 5th

Thursday, January 5th

Tuesday, January 10th

Please save the date and be on the lookout for more information in your email soon!

Executive Director Message



Elizabeth Fitzgerald
Executive Director

Coffee Talk

What a great few weeks!

Membership season is in full gear with 11 wonderful coffees completed and six more scheduled. It has been a pleasure meeting so many women excited about sharing the mission of Impact Austin and seeing the response of prospective members. The Community Partners are passionate about their cause and how the Impact Austin grant has changed the face of their organization. Many have talked about the strenuous grant process and how it taught them about what they needed to do to make their group stronger and more sustainable. After receiving an Impact Austin grant, many Community Partners felt it gave them a "Good Housekeeping" seal of approval, and they were able to receive additional funds from the community. I love hearing the personal stories of members and

11.11.11 TAGS

Coffee Season is Still Underway!

Our final scheduled fall Membership Community Coffee is Monday, November 7th at [Lake Travis Wine Trader](#). Please help us meet our membership goal by sharing your Impact Austin story with a friend and joining up at this event. We hope to see you there!

Monday, November 7th

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Lake Travis Wine Trader

2422 RR 620 South, Suite A-118

Lakeway, TX 78734 ([map](#))

[Click Here to Register](#)

We also have In-Home Coffees at our Members' homes this fall. These are listed in the upper left-hand column of this newsletter. If you would like to attend an In-Home Coffee, please contact Liz Fitzgerald at efitzgerald@impact-austin.org for details.



Women learn more about Impact Austin at our September Membership Coffee at Collectic Home.

2011 Speaker Series This Tuesday - Register Now!

Bring your friends, family, and significant others to the 2011 Impact Austin Speaker Series. This event is open to the public!



Community Partners that make up the many faces of Impact Austin. From one member who worked with a group of women to support an Impact Austin finalist who did not win, to Charlie McCabe, Executive Director of Austin Parks Foundation, who said presenting at the Annual Meeting was as stressful as presenting one-on-one to the late Apple Founder, Steve Jobs. It thrills me to hear a Camp Fire Balcones Council child participant was able to experience and actually see Town Lake for the first time due to the Impact Austin grant!

With 11.11.11 fast approaching I ask that you make your commitment to Impact Austin for 2012. Our goal of 500 women will ensure that the many faces of Impact Austin will continue to make a BIG IMPACT in the Central Texas community. You can [go online](#) this year to join, mail in your check, or join me at a membership coffee or at the Speaker Series on Tuesday.

I look forward to meeting and seeing many of you over the next few weeks and thank you for your support of Impact Austin.

Sincerely,
Liz

Connect with Us

We invite you to visit us online at www.impact-austin.org and 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:

Find us on Facebook 

View our profile on LinkedIn 

Follow us on 

View our videos on YouTube 

Sign up to [volunteer](#).

And don't forget to check out [Rebecca's Blog](#).

In Your Mailbox

On September 16th, we are mailing our **Annual Brochure and Letter** to members. Be on the lookout for this in your mailbox next



Eliza Gilkyson and Craig Hella Johnson
Video by Kathy Hargrave

Tuesday, October 25, 2011
7:00 p.m.
Congregation Agudas Achim
7300 Hart Lane
Austin, TX 78731
[Map](#)

[Click Here to Register](#)

Admission is \$25 for members/ \$35 for non-members (plus a \$2 credit card fee) and includes a CD from both artists. Impact Austin can only accept cash or check if you pay the night of the event.

Eliza and Craig will share a vibrant and engaging dialogue about what is of great value to them, how to support the building of community and the experience of music as a transformational language. They will talk, sing and play songs and tell stories from their own creative life paths.

Though different in style and approach, they blend their unique talents as they take each audience member on a musical journey that stirs the heart. They will create an atmosphere of 'community' full of laughter and maybe a few tears...

The Impact Austin Story

A Video of Our Founder

Please watch the video below and hear about the inspiration behind Impact Austin!



week. Also, please consider passing the brochure along to a friend you think may be interested in learning more about Impact Austin.

Our Mission

We're a progressive leader in women's philanthropy, bringing new resources to the community and making philanthropy accessible. Through high-impact grant making, we engage, develop and inspire women to effect positive change.

Our Vision

Our vision is that our women are inspirational role models reaching their full giving potential for a better quality of life in our community. We will ensure our long-term sustainability by tapping into the talents of our members and building Impact Austin from the "inside out."

Our Values

Transparency - We are an open book.

Excellence - We are thorough, professional and go above and beyond.

Inclusiveness - We are open to all women.

Democracy - Each member has an equal voice.

Integrity - We are honest and ethical.

Respect - We consider the impact of our words and actions on others.

Accountability - We say what we're going to do and we do it.

Innovation - We are creative, but prudent risk-takers.

Continuous Improvement - Through feedback and other input, we are always improving.



Impact Austin's Founder, Rebecca Powers, tells her Impact Austin story.
Video by Kathy Hargrave

Community Partner Spotlight

Austin Partners in Education

Austin Partners in Education Reading Stars Program is Off to a Good Start!

Thanks to the Impact Austin grant, [Austin Partners in Education](#) (APIE) will provide 6th grade Reading Classroom Coaching to an estimated 450 students in 15 classrooms at Webb and Burnet Middle Schools in the 2011-12 school year. The APIE 6th Grade Reading Classroom Coaching program (RCC) empowers 6th grade students to become stronger, independent readers through Reading Classroom Coaching. APIE is investing in children, their education and our future. The RCC Program not only encourages children to read, but builds confidence, teaches community service, and provides students with a vision of what they are capable of attaining in the future.





APIE will provide 6th grade Reading Classroom Coaching to ~450 students

All 6th grade students will benefit from classroom based support for 45 minutes per week in small groups (2 - 3 students) for 24 weeks provided by APIE caring and compassionate adult volunteers. The students will work with the same volunteer in a reading group at their respective level and will receive specific customized and targeted instruction in a comfortable and familiar space.

In addition, APIE will introduce a new program called Reading Stars. Reading Stars is designed to encourage students to read, provide them with opportunities to be successful, create reading materials to support our local schools, and reinforce being a community member. They will work weekly with their Classroom Coach to perfect their reading; they will then have the opportunity to star in their own book-on-tape. The students will receive a copy of their recording to share with their family and one copy will be donated to the children at a partner elementary school. The students participating in Reading Stars will be able to share what they have learned with younger readers.





Reading Stars enables students to share what they have learned with younger readers!

Classroom coaching will be launched in Austin ISD classrooms beginning in October. APIE currently has 95 volunteer coaches and is still seeking 94 more in order to serve more than 400 children. We're very excited about the Impact Austin grant and anticipate a very successful year for our students.

Impact Through Involvement

Sign up for Impact Austin's 2012 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 fun and rewarding experience.

Watch for an email in late October providing more information on the FAC sign-up process. Or, for additional information contact Connie Lawyer at clawyer@impact-austin.org.

2011 Member Survey

Results

Thank you for completing the 2011 Member Survey! Your feedback helps us improve, and we take it very seriously.

131 members (24%) completed the survey this year.

Membership data:

1st year: 32	2nd year: 21
3rd year: 16	4th year: 8
5th year: 17	6th year: 19
7th year: 18	

44 served on FAC this year: 89% had a good experience
40 served on FAC previously
43 never served on FAC

41 served on committee other than an FAC this year: 97% had a good experience

Respondents said:

98% were satisfied with the 10 grant finalists
93% were satisfied with the 5 chosen as Community Partners
77% read all or most of the finalist reports
83% agreed that finalist reports contributed significantly to decision-making

Two most important benefits derived from volunteering:

1. Giving back, making a difference to the community
2. Support Impact Austin, helping it continue and improve

Three most important aspects of being Impact Austin member:

1. Making an impact and a difference in the community
2. Satisfaction in being part of Impact Austin, pride in what the organization accomplishes.
3. Learning about nonprofits in the Austin area and the needs they serve

50% have volunteered and/or made a financial contribution to an organization learned about through membership in Impact Austin.

64% learned about Impact Austin from the founder and/or another member

Top three reasons for joining Impact Austin:

1. 100% of my \$1000 donation goes to the Community Partners
2. Because pooling my money with others' donations has more impact
3. Because of the Impact Austin mission, process, and organization

Demographics of respondents:

Age: (5 respondents skipped this question)

20's - 30's: 11
40's: 29
50's: 53
60's: 27
70's - 80's: 6

78% have lived in Austin more than 10 years

Ethnic Origin (5 respondents skipped this question):

94% Caucasian
2% African American
2% Hispanic

1% Hispanic
1% Asian
1% Multi-racial

Employment Categories:
For profit business: 56%
Volunteer: 13%
Retired: 11%
Other: 10%
Stay at home: 7%
Nonprofit: 3%

Actions being taken, based on member feedback:

Grants Committee:

- Restructure the 2012 Grants calendar to allow more time for the FAC sub-committees to review grant applications.
- Create a committee to revise the FAC Manuals.

Membership Development:

- Create more opportunities for volunteer and member engagement.

Marketing:

- Evaluate current delivery methods of member communications.

[Forward email](#)



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