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NEWS

For Extraordinary Members

Mark Your Calendar

Gala Honoring Rebecca Powers

***Concordia University
Excellence in Leadership Gala
Friday, August 26, 2011
6:30 p.m.***

*Four Seasons Hotel
98 San Jacinto Blvd.
Austin, TX 78701*

**For more information, contact
Glenda Holmstrom at
glenda.holmstrom@gmail.com*

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 will open in
September*

Executive Director Message

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- Executive Director Message - **Shoe Shopping**
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- Community Partner Spotlight - **Our 2011 Community Partners Have Hit the Ground Running!**

Remembering Susan Noble

Our member, Susan Noble, lost her battle with cancer on Thursday, July 29, 2011. This may come as a surprise to many, but that was the way Susan wanted it. She was very private, by choice, and didn't want lots of 'fuss' around her as she faced the end of her fight. There will be a celebration of her life in Austin at a later date. She will be with us in spirit, and it will be a beautiful thing.



Elizabeth Fitzgerald
Executive Director

Shoe Shopping!

As I told all of you in my welcome video at the annual meeting, Rebecca left some REALLY big shoes to fill and I hope to come to this party in a new pair of shoes. So my first month at Impact Austin I have been doing a lot of shoe shopping. I have had the pleasure of meeting with many board and committee members to help me determine what those shoes will look like. So far I can tell you they are going to be the best pair of shoes I have ever owned! All shoe analogies aside...I am inspired and motivated by Impact Austin's members' dedication and vision. Everyone I have talked to thinks Impact Austin has an amazing mission. Members have expressed wanting ways to get more engaged with other members and Community Partners, better technology and an easier membership sign up process.

In response to your feedback, Impact Austin is launching two exciting improvements to membership! First, Membership Move Up!! We are asking all members to sign up and pay for membership by November 11, 2011. By having members sign up by 11.11.11, it helps Impact Austin prepare for the grant cycle and the upcoming year in a more efficient and sustainable manner. This really helps Impact Austin membership volunteers too, because our volunteers will no longer be required to take time away from family and holiday celebrations at this very busy time of year to recruit and secure



I last visited her the Sunday before she passed away. Though weak and dozing in and out, she said she loved Impact Austin. I told her that Impact Austin loved her back. She smiled as she closed her eyes. I held her hand, kissed her forehead and left with tears in my eyes and love filling my heart. I knew Susan for 33 years. She always challenged me to do my best, and we dreamed of what we'd do together when she beat her cancer and I retired from Impact Austin. She will continue to inspire all of us...just from a different place.

Please enjoy this poem...it was read by a special college friend of Susan's at her bedside the afternoon she passed away.

THE WHITE HORSE by Lois Hjelmstad

Death comes on a white horse
to carry you away

I see the love in Her eyes as
She lifts you carefully
and cradles you in Her arms

You go willingly, early,
even though you know

You can't come home again

Godspeed, Susan!

Lovingly,
Rebecca Powers and your Impact Austin family

Membership Update 11.11.11 - Announcing Membership Move Up!

Moving Impact Austin's membership deadline up for 2012 will have a VERY positive

members. This is good for our members too since the other exciting news is that all members will be able to sign up for membership online. This will make signing up easy and reduce data entry and errors in the sign up process. It will also provide you with a tax receipt and instant confirmation of your donation, and the entire amount is tax deductible. The online payment process will also allow friends and family to donate to Impact Austin as "friends", or donate in honor or memory of someone special in your life. The membership sign up page is due to be launched at the end of August and I will keep you updated as we move forward.

My focus will continue to be to get to know all of the membership and to make technology for Impact Austin more efficient, so members will have easier ways to be engaged and updated. I would love to have the opportunity to meet or talk to all of you, so I will be setting up some meet and greets around Austin. These meets and greets will be a great way for you to get to know me and learn more about my plans for the next few months and for you to give me lots of feedback and ideas. In these meets and greets I would love to add a membership component to these get togethers. So please bring a friend, co-worker or family member who is interested in learning more about membership. A list of dates for meets and greets and membership coffees will be posted on the website, Facebook and LinkedIn soon. If you are interested in hosting a meet and greet or membership coffee at your home or business, please let me know.

Much Gratitude,
Liz

What Our Members Are Saying

In the October newsletter we will share the details from the 2010-2011 Member Survey, but in the meantime, here is what a few members had to say about their Impact Austin experience.

"Very well-run and ethical organization. If many businesses were run as effectively as IA, the world would

IMPACT on our members, volunteers and Community Partners!

We ask that ALL members, new and returning, sign up for membership by November 11th, 2011.

Here are a few examples of how Membership Move Up will help Impact Austin:

- Volunteers will not be overburdened during the holiday season.
- The Membership Development and Grants Committees can prepare more efficiently for 2012.
- Members can get engaged in December and have more opportunities to sign up for Focus Area Committees and other volunteer opportunities.

Please visit [our website](#) to learn more about becoming an Impact Austin member. Online Membership enrollment and payment will be available on the website by the end of August!



Impact Austin members hear grant recipient results at the 2011 Annual Meeting

FY2012 Update

Announcing the 2012 Board of Directors

Impact Austin is pleased to announce its fiscal year 2012 Board of Directors. The Board is the governing body of our organization. It sets policy and provides strategic direction. The Operations Team (including the Committee Cabinet) performs the day-to-day work to ensure Impact Austin meets its annual goals.

Stay tuned for a listing of Community Cabinet members in future e-newsletters.

Board of Directors:

Jacqueline Rixen, President
Business Attorney, Law Office of Jacqueline Rixen

be a better place."

"My love of this organization continues to grow the more that I do. It is such a great group of women and a great organization because of the extremely fair and unbiased way that we operate."

"Because of my busy work schedule, I have not been able to attend meetings or be active in the grant process. However, I **feel good that my financial contribution goes to a great cause.**"

"I look forward to another exciting year with Impact Austin. Thanks for working to make this awesome organization go!"

What is your favorite Community Partner and why? What does your Impact Austin membership mean to you? Our members want to hear from you!

To share your story, please email Laura Green at newsletter@impact-austin.org

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](#) 

View all our amazing videos on Impact Austin's [YouTube Channel](#).

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

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

Lorene Philips, Vice President
Human Resources Administrator, Pedernales Electric Company

Valerie Kirk, Treasurer
Managing Partner, Casey, Gentz & Bayliff L.L.P.

Kali' Rourke, Secretary
Public Education Advocate and Philanthropist

Paula Klante, Immediate Past President
VP of Engineering, Austin Logistics

Mary Brooker, Director
Senior Vice President, Austin Private Bank Manager, Regions Bank

Mary Campana, Director
Director of Development, Communities In Schools of Central Texas

Diane McCartney, Director
Senior Compliance Manager, ACS

Sara Pantin, Director
Managing Partner, Asset Strategies Group, L.L.C.

Lauren Paver, Director
Chief Operating Office, United Way Capital Area



Please join us in thanking the 2011 Board of Directors for their amazing contribution to Impact Austin!

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.

Save The Date

2011 Speaker Series

We're stirring up some magic...!

Please join your fellow Impact Austin members and friends for a musical conversation with...

- Craig Hella Johnson, Conspirare Artistic Director
- Eliza Gilkyson, Singer/Songwriter

Tuesday, October 25, 2011

7:00 p.m.

Congregation Agudas Achim

7300 Hart Lane

Austin, TX 78731

Eliza and Craig will play the guitar and piano as they sing their way into your heart. Though different in style and approach, they blend their unique talents as they take each audience member on an indescribable musical journey that stirs the heart. They will create an atmosphere of 'community' full of laughter and maybe a few tears...good tears, of course.

Registration for this event will open in September. Please look for an email invitation next month.

Gala Honoring Rebecca Powers

We are proud to announce that Impact Austin's Founder, Rebecca Powers, is being honored by Concordia University at their annual Excellence in Leadership Gala!

Friday, August 26, 2011

6:30 p.m.

Four Seasons Hotel

98 San Jacinto Blvd.

Austin, TX 78701

Impact Austin members and friends are invited to attend!

For more information, contact Glenda Holmstrom at glenda.holmstrom@gmail.com or visit www.concordia.edu/EIL.



Community Partner Spotlight

Our 2011 Community Partners Have Hit the Ground Running!

Our new Community Partners shared information on their new programs and their

thoughts about the impact of winning an Impact Austin grant.

Culture: [Paramount and State Theatres](#)



"We are incredibly honored and gratified by this extraordinary grant from Impact Austin. It will now allow our Literacy to Life program the opportunity to expand and continue to fundamentally change the lives of so many more young people. The Literacy to Life program gives 3rd grade children not only the tools to become better writers, but also the self-belief that they can indeed be a great writer, a communicator and that the creative stories they created in their own mind can come to life." - Jim Ritts, Executive Director

"To be respected and accepted by adult actors, their teachers, mentors, and their peers, is something that many of these children could never imagine. In an era of tight budgets, the arts are being cut in all school districts in Texas. At the Paramount Theatre we are proud to offer programs like Literacy to Life to help supplement arts education in Austin public schools." - Nathaniel Miller, Education & Outreach Director.

Education: [Austin Partners in Education](#)



"We are profoundly grateful to Impact Austin for enabling us to bring our middle school literacy programming hundreds of economically disadvantaged students. By helping our at-risk students experience success at this pivotal academic juncture, we support their quest to graduate, go to college and pursue a rewarding career," said Kathrin Brewer, Executive Director of Austin Partners in Education. "We applaud Impact Austin's commitment to community and look forward to working closely with this group of dedicated women."

Environment: [Camp Fire USA Balcones Council](#)



The mission of Camp Fire USA is to build caring, confident youth and future leaders. Camp Fire USA Balcones Council develops responsible youth in central Texas through supportive informal education community programs for all ages. Camp Fire has an environmental emphasis. Whether in the inner city or at a park, the environment provides a perfect laboratory for discovery, curiosity, compassion and concern. Youth and their families are at their best when they can embrace these traits.

Camp Fire Kids Unplugged, a family outdoor learning program, gives underserved kids and their families the experiences and knowledge to become environmental stewards of today and tomorrow. Camp Fire Kids Unplugged strives to change the behavior of families by giving parents the skills to support their children's outdoor experiences, laying the foundation for environmental stewardship. It is the only program in central Texas providing introductory and supported outdoor experiences to low income families in a year-long program. It is an innovative program in which parents and children are learning together. Last year, Camp Fire Kids Unplugged served low-income families in 3 elementary schools. Impact Austin's grant will allow us to expand into 7 elementary schools in the Del Valle ISD where Camp Fire is currently operating environmentally focused, outdoor education children's programs as part of Del Valle's After School programs.

Family: [Texas Advocacy Project](#)



"The grant supports the Project's Emergency Protective Order Program which provides life-saving legal services to victims of domestic violence within hours of an abuser's arrest and when they need them the most. Thanks to Impact Austin victims of family violence will now have access to legal advice and assistance in obtaining emergency protective orders and other court orders that they need to make their transition to safety. Through the partnership, the Project's clients will also be able to obtain access to financial resources like child support, equity in the marital estate, and rental assistance--that are critical elements in breaking the cycle of violence permanently." said Andrea Sloan, Executive Director of Texas Advocacy Project. "This grant is critically important to our ability to serve our clients, but equally important is that this group of women will go out and spread the word about the Project. When the members of Impact Austin encounter someone trapped in an abusive relationship, they will know that we are here, that what we do is free, and that we can help change lives."

Health and Wellness: [Austin Child Guidance Center](#)



"We are delighted to have this endorsement of the critical work that we do from Impact Austin," reports Executive Director Russell A. Smith, LMSW. "Their support will allow us to permanently increase our capacity, and will truly make an impact on so many children and families who are confronted by mental health concerns." "I am a huge proponent of collective giving, and of Impact Austin's model in particular. Through banding together, this group of community leaders has been able to do remarkable things," says Smith.

Please check out the Impact Austin 2010 Community Partner video!



Impact Austin 2010 Community Partner video

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