



**Con Mi MADRE**  
Mothers And Daughters Raising Expectations  
Formerly The Junior League of Austin's Hispanic Mother-Daughter Program

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Con Mi MADRE Announces 2011 Corazon Awards Honorees**

*2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mother's Day brunch and award ceremony recognizes outstanding women making a significant impact in Austin community*

(Austin, TX) – April 9, 2011 – [Con Mi MADRE](#), a college preparatory program for Hispanic female students and their mothers, is pleased to announce the 2011 Annual Corazon Awards honorees. Celebrating under the theme “ Daughters... Impacting Families, Impacting Communities,” five honorees will be recognized at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Corazon Awards Mother's Day brunch and ceremony on Sunday, May 1 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Radisson on Town Lake, 111 Cesar Chavez at Congress. Tickets can be [purchased](#) at \$75 for open seating. This year's honorees include:

- *Mariposa Award: **University of Texas School of Social Work** honoring **Dr. Dean White** and **Kathy Armenta**, for their commitment to mentor the Con Mi MADRE program staff and nurture the program over 18 years.*
- *Corazon Community Award: **Jeanne Goka**, principal of the Ann Richards School, for her passion and belief in the power of education and her determination to grow a successful girl's only school.*
- *Corazon Community Award: **Rosie Mendoza**, R. Mendoza & Company, P.C. for her involvement in the community and her advocacy of mental health and disability issues.*
- *Mother/Daughter Award: **Diana Rodriguez Riojas**, Con Mi MADRE mother participant, for her compassionate and humble personality that allows her to give more than she receives and her commitment to serving her church and the homeless.*

"The Corazon Awards is an annual celebration recognizing the impact of outstanding women in the Austin community who serve as great role models for Con Mi MADRE participants," said Sandy Alcala, executive director, Con MI MADRE. "This year's honorees have highly demonstrated commitment and determination in making a difference, and we are pleased to honor them to the utmost."

Embarking on its second year, Con Mi MADRE's Corazon Awards honors women making a significant impact in the Austin community through individual excellence and high levels of accomplishment. Funds raised by The Corazon Awards will support programming expenses and allow Con Mi MADRE to provide training and educational opportunities at no cost to participating families. Categories include:

- **Mother/Daughter:** A mother (or mother-role model) who participates in Con Mi MADRE programming with a Con Mi MADRE student.
- **Community (two recipients):** Women who have made a great impact in the areas of achievement including leadership, the arts, health, communication, community action, education or business, and have made a significant contribution to the Austin community through their service.
- **Mariposa (Butterfly):** New for 2011, Mariposa is a special honor awarded by the Con Mi MADRE Board of Directors recognizing a woman who has made a lasting impact to the mission of the organization.



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Nominations for 2011 were submitted by peers of the local community between December 2010 and February 2011. Criteria required nominees to 1) be residents of the Greater Austin area, 2) have had a direct and powerful impact in the area of achievement for which they've been nominated, and 3) serve as leaders and role models for young women. Con Mi MADRE compiled a judge's committee consisting of the Honorable Orlinda Naranjo of the 419th District Court Travis County, Etta Moore, executive director, Girl Scouts of Central Texas, Anna Sanchez, Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Board member, former State Representative (HD-52), Diana Maldonado, and Steve Vinklarek, State Farm Insurance.

Honorees for 2010 include:

- Sonya Banda, Mother/Daughter award
- Dr. Tracy Eilers, executive director, Adoption Coalition of Texas, Community Impact
- Honorable Elizabeth James Jones, for the Railroad Commission of Texas, Community Impact
- Orlinda Naranjo of the 419th District Court Travis County, Community Impact
- Cookie Gregory Ruiz, Ballet Austin, Community Impact

Sponsors for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Corazon Awards Brunch include AT&T, Seton Family of Hospitals, Wells Fargo, Mariben Ramsey and Karen Kahan, Chamberlain McHaney, Thompson, Coe, Cousins and Iron, Cookie Ruiz, Judy Loreda, Rodan + Fields Dermatologists Independent Consultant Alexis Adauto Ferguson, Mitchell & Colmenero, LLP, JWH Communications, and Sandy Alcala.

Sponsorships packages are still available at Nurturer, Giver, Supporter, and Believer levels. Please contact Christine Kutnick at [christine@conmimadre.org](mailto:christine@conmimadre.org).

### **About Con Mi MADRE**

Con Mi MADRE is a college preparatory program providing Hispanic female students and their mothers with the educational and social support needed to help the students graduate high school and pursue higher education. After championing this program for 16 years, The Junior League of Austin launched the Hispanic Mother Daughter Program to become an independent non-profit operating under the new name Con Mi MADRE...*Mothers and Daughters Raising Expectations*. The translation of the new name is "with my mother", reflecting the unique element of this college-bound program which involves the participation by both the mother and daughter. Con Mi MADRE serves 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade girls who have demonstrated academic potential and/or could benefit from academic/personal support services. For more information, please visit [www.conmimadre.org](http://www.conmimadre.org).

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