

HOT Chapter Newsletter

2020 VOLUME 1

March 12, 2020



Advancing Women in Transportation
Heart of Texas Chapter

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Greetings!

I'm so excited that Spring is finally here! The flowers and trees are blooming and adding some much-needed color back to our world and there's a crisp freshness in the air that only springtime can bring. But also, I am looking forward to all of the wonderful upcoming events we have in store for you over the next

few months and how WTS as an organization will begin to blossom in front of your own eyes!

With 2020 already off to a great start, we have lots to celebrate this year as we continue to commemorate the Women's Suffrage Movement and the Centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that ensured women the right to vote.

With the upcoming census and 2020 elections, it will be an important year for our industry – on both the local and national levels – regarding transportation funding and policy. I encourage each of us to not only actively participate in the political process, but to do so in a way that brings honor to the sacrifices made by our ancestors so many years ago.

Join me in congratulating Tracie Brown of the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority who was recently presented with our Rosa Parks Diversity Award at our February luncheon featuring a diversity panel. All other chapter awards will be presented at our Annual Gala on Saturday, April 25, 2020. So, mark your calendars and get your tickets before they sell out – it's sure to be a "roaring" good time!

Speaking of gala, we have it and many other spring and summer events coming up on the calendar. While we do not currently anticipate having to cancel or postpone any of our events, your safety is our top priority. Our chapter and WTSI are keeping a close eye on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and updates from the CDC and local governments. We encourage you to utilize elbow bumps in lieu of hugs and elevate hygiene practices. For more information see www.austintexas.gov/COVID19 and www.cdc.gov.

President's Letter continued on the next page...



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LLC

President's Letter continued...

Our March Luncheon Emerging Transportation Technologies in Texas will feature Kevin Pete, new TXDOT Research & Technology Implementation Director and Jianming Ma, TXDOT Traffic Division.

The WTS Annual Conference will be May 20-22nd in Phoenix, Arizona. You can register by visiting the WTS International website at: <https://www.wtsinternational.org/networking/2020-conference/>

In closing, I'd like to challenge us all to help bring our own renewed life into our industry and WTS. I'd like for each of us to introduce a new person from our workplaces or industry circles to WTS through an event, luncheon, or committee meeting. In doing so, we as an organization will have the most beautiful blooms of all. Happy Spring!

All the best,

Jackie Sartor

SAVE THE DATE!

WTS HOT Chapter
Presents the 16th Annual
**SCHOLARSHIP
& AWARDS
GALA**

Join us for a
**ROARING '20s
GOOD TIME.**

◆ Silent Auction ◆ Speakeasy Casinos ◆
◆ Live Auction ◆ Raffle ◆

SATURDAY, APRIL 25
5:30 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Austin
6505 N Interstate 35, Austin, TX 78752

Early Bird Tickets Available Now

Sponsored Tables ◆ Member ◆ Non-Member ◆ Students/Gov't
\$1,200 ◆ \$125 ◆ \$150 ◆ \$75





SAVE THE DATE

Join us for a conversation about Emerging Transportation Technologies in Texas. Our March luncheon features presentations by Kevin Pete, new TxDOT Research & Technology Implementation Division (RTI) Director, who will give an overview of the division and current projects going on at TxDOT. Additionally, Jianming Ma with the TxDOT Traffic Division, will be presenting on various traffic related projects.

Registration Deadline:

Friday, March 13, 2020 at 12 pm



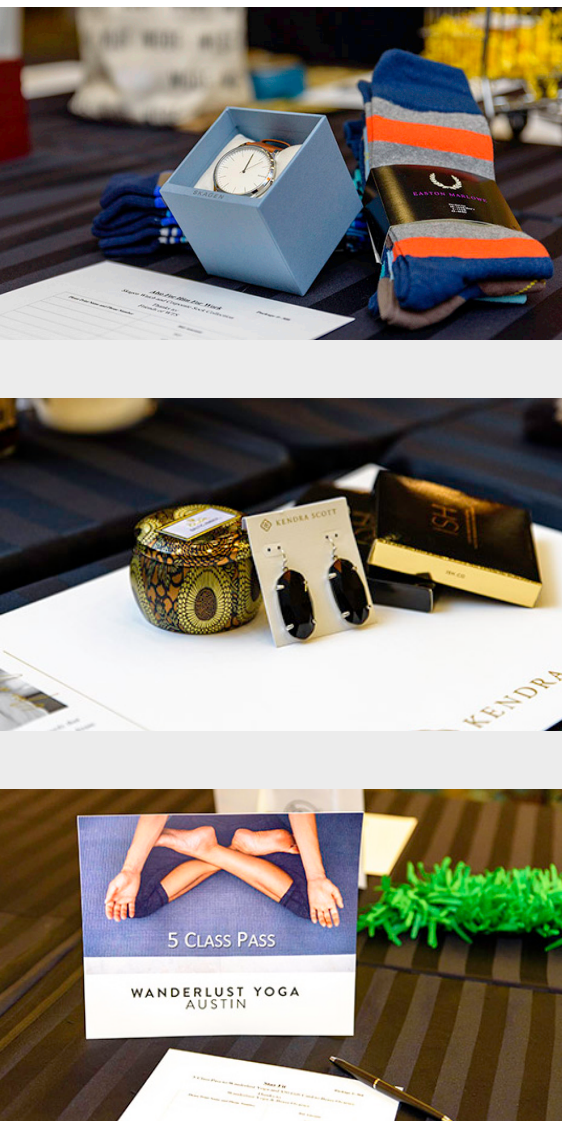
CALL FOR SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

Calling all Members! We are requesting YOUR help to make this year's Silent Auction at the 16th Annual Gala the best one yet. All proceeds from our silent auction goes directly to our Foundation Account which funds our scholarships and youth mentoring programs. Please consider reaching out to your personal network to help our team bring in a diverse set of auction items. Ask your gym, your hair dresser, your favorite restaurant, your sister who makes homemade jewelry to consider donating or pick up an extra gift while you are out holiday shopping. Once you have secured an item, please fill out this form:

<https://forms.gle/oi6vkUQWTaWecsFo9>

Remember, the WTS Scholarship Fund is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization; therefore, your contribution is tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

If you need more information, donation ideas or have any questions, contact [Ashley Macmillan](#).



CALL FOR SPONSORSHIPS

As we kick off another year of WTS events, we look to our fantastic Corporate and Agency Partners for continued support in the form of Gala sponsorship. The 16th Annual Scholarship & Awards Gala, scheduled for Saturday, April 25th, provides a number of opportunities to support our HOT Chapter through the form of sponsorship. The list to the right displays the various sponsorship opportunities available this year. These sponsorships are typically claimed quickly, so please let us know as soon as possible if you're able to further contribute to the success of the HOT Chapter via Gala sponsorship! Contact corporatepartnership@wtshotchapter.org and gala@wtshotchapter.org for more information.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES	PRICE
Dessert Sponsor	\$2,500
Photo Booth Sponsor (Traditional)	\$2,000
Photo Booth Sponsor (Red Carpet "Step & Repeat")	\$2,000
Giveaway Sponsor	\$2,000
Speakeasy Casino Sponsor (4 available)	\$1,500
	\$1,000
	\$500
Gala Sponsored Dining Tables (Rounds of 8)	\$1,200 Early Bird
	\$1,400 Regular
Heads or Tails Game	\$1,200
Entertainment Sponsor	\$1,000
Cocktail Napkins Sponsor	\$500
Silent Auction Sponsor	\$500
Raffle Sponsor	\$500





Girl Day at UT Austin

BUILDING BRIDGES AT GIRL DAY 2020

About 600 students designed, created, and built bridges using toothpicks and marshmallows, and then load tested them with candy "cars" during Girl Day at UT. WTS Transportation YOU was among 162 organizations sponsoring activities in the STEM fields.



2020 Statistics:

- 8,050 K-8th Grade Registrants:
 - 88% Girls,
 - 8% from Greater San Antonio,
 - 35% Latina/Latino,
 - 7% from Greater Houston,
 - 11% African American,
 - 4% from Dallas / Fort Worth,
 - 10% Asian,
 - 3,092 (38%) Girl Scouts
 - 69% from Central Texas,
- 37 corporate partners including BAE Systems, BASF, Halliburton, and Kiewit Construction as presenting partners and Cisco Systems, General Motors, Google Fiber, and Intel as Area Partners
- 185 companies, non-profits, colleges, student organizations, research groups & community partners
- 162 hands-on activities, shows, demonstrations and information areas
- 1,750 high school, college, alumni, corporate and community volunteers

Volunteers included:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kimberly Feldbauer, AECOM • Ashley Buckmaster, Alliance Transportation Group • Jamie Byers, Alliance Transportation Group • Angel-Lina Soutdarany, Atkins • Hong-Ting Chen, Atkins • Betty Alba, BGE • Elena Ramon, BGE • Emily Petrosky, BGE • Abril Matysek, CDM Smith • Lisa Loftus-Otway, Center for Transportation Research • Susanna Gallun, Center for Transportation Research • Ashley Williams, Center for Transportation Research • Jennifer Bennett-Reumuth, City of Austin • Judith Olvera, City of Austin | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leah J. Collier, CP&Y • Carolyn Cook, Federal Railroad Administration • Mary Jo Galindo, Galindo Environmental Consulting • Kiva Navarro, Garver • Rachel Cook, HDR • Ashley Hinman, HNTB • Janelle Carey, HNTB • Monique Rivera, HNTB • Kat Streff, Kleinfelder • Stephanie Castillo, UJA Engineering • Van Heye, UJA Engineering • Christina S. Kim, SAM • Anamaria Torres, Stantec • Amy Redmond, TxDOT • Beth Ortego, TxDOT • Arielle Kurkin, WSP |
|---|--|

BRIDGE KIT ASSEMBLY VOLUNTEERS

WTS Transportation YOU thanks Janelle Carey and HNTB who hosted a Bridge Kit party where 14 volunteers assembled 50 marshmallows and 100 toothpicks into each of 600 sandwich bags in preparation for Girl Day at UT. This feat was accomplished record time!

Volunteers included:

- Janelle Carey, HNTB
- Michelle Dippel, HNTB
- Monique Rivera, HNTB
- Susanna Gallun, Center for Transportation Research
- Katie Strain, Civil & Environmental Consultants
- Mary Jo Galindo, Galindo Environmental Consulting
- Michelle Lacks, Garver
- Susan Chavez, Garver
- Kat Streff, Kleinfelder
- Anamaria Torres, Stantec
- Amy Redmond, TxDOT
- Sonya Hernandez, TxDOT
- Tracey Janus, TxDOT
- Adeliza Ramirez, Volkert, Inc.

PREVIOUS EVENTS



ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Executive Director of Aviation for ABIA, Jacqueline Yaft, and Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Austin, Delia Garza are our honorary members for 2020. Jacqueline Yaft gave an overview of ABIA and its rapid growth, as well as what is coming. Mayor Pro Tem Delia Garza discussed her career advancement to become the first Latina to serve as Austin's Mayor Pro Tem and highlighted her biggest takeaways from her various roles.

FEBRUARY LUNCHEON

Thanks to our speakers and moderator, our February luncheon on Key Leaders for Diversity in the Austin Transportation Industry was a big success. During this panel discussion, the topic on infants in the workplace was a hot topic. Panelists included:

- Shuronda Robinson, President/CEO of Adisa Communications
- Jennifer Williams, SHRM-CP, PHR, sHRBP, TxDOT's first - Employee Diversity & Inclusion Director (HR Division)
- Jorge Morales, Director of City of Austin Watershed Protection Department
- Tracie Brown, Director of Operations for CTRMA
- Donna Simmons, SPHR, PMP, CPFO, Executive Vice President of Administration/Diversity and Inclusion Officer at CapMetro



Tracie Brown (center) accepting the 2020 Rosa Parks Diversity Award.

Kendra gives back



KENDRA SCOTT

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who attended the Kendra Scott event on February 7 at the Domain. We met our spending goal and successfully raised more than \$1,100 for our scholarship gala!

MEMBER UPDATE

Member	Employer
Amber McCullough	Ramos Consulting, LLC
Beth Valenzuela	Terracon Consultants, Inc.
Katie Kenneally	Atkins / SNC Lavalin
Kris Carpenter	Atkins North America
Leanne Cantalupo	Garver

Member	Employer
Nan Jiang	DKS Associates
Nicole McGrath	CDM Smith
Nicolette Hebert	LJA Engineering
Rebecca McGovern	WSP USA
Sally Amaye	WSP USA



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2020 CORPORATE & AGENCY PARTNERS

Platinum



Gold



Silver



Bronze



DBE



Agency Partners



Agency Affiliates

