Renu Khator
Chancellor's Report
UH System Board of Regents Meeting
November 11, 2009

[A copy of President Khator's Fall Address is included as part of the November 11 Chancellor's Report to the Board of Regents]

UH

The announcement was made last week that **Blaffer Gallery's Young Artist Apprenticeship Program**, or YAAP, a six-week comprehensive art-making workshop for teenagers from neighboring Houston Independent School District high schools, has earned a **Coming Up Taller Award** from the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.

In a ceremony at the White House last Wednesday, **First Lady Michelle Obama** presented plaques to Blaffer curator of education **Katherine Veneman** and to **Jessica Flores**, a former student participant. Blaffer Gallery also received $10,000 in support of the program.

Chosen from a nation-wide pool of 420 applicants, YAAP was the **only program from Texas** to be a finalist for this prestigious award. In the award's 11-year history, YAAP is the first program from Houston to be recognized.

Participating high schools are Austin, Cesar Chavez, Milby, Yates, and Eastwood Academy.

UH-Clear Lake

UHCL is celebrating its seventh annual **Veterans Day Celebration** in grand style today, November 11, with a community-wide campus event. This year's honored branch of service is the **U.S. Marines**. **Walter Cunningham**, former astronaut and Marine veteran, will be keynote speaker. The ceremony will include an Army helicopter flyover and a display of vintage military vehicles and equipment.

George Guillen, associate professor of biology and environmental science and executive director of the Environmental Institute of Houston, has received a $544,343 four-year award from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for his proposal "Armand Bayou Water Quality Improvement Grant."

UH-Downtown

President Bill Flores has been named to the Hispanic Business magazine's **100 Influentials** list for 2009. He is one of eight individuals honored in the magazine's education sector. Others honored in this year's listing include Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, Anchor of CBS's

The Early Show Maggie Rodriguez, St. Louis Cardinals 1st Baseman Albert Pujols and President and CEO of the Hispanic Scholarship Fund Frank Alvarez.

The **National Science Foundation** has awarded UHD close to $900,000 for a national scholarship program aimed at preparing high school science teachers. The award will allow at least 26 undergraduate students in the UHD **Scholars Academy** to complete degrees in sciences along with coursework required to earn Texas certification for secondary school teachers.

UH-Victoria

This coming Friday, as part of its community outreach, UHV will host the sixth **Texas Computer Education Association** Area III Educational Technology **mini conference** on campus. Area teachers will learn ways to use YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, blogs and podcasting – the same things students love to play with – to teach them. The mini conference offers more than 25 different sessions. One will show teachers how to create their own podcasts and make them available via iTunes. Another will offer teachers ways to use blogs in and out of the classroom. Teachers also can learn about useful Web sites, free online resources and effective ways other teachers have used new technology to enhance their lessons.

Texas Gov. **Rick Perry** joined UHV President **Tim Hudson**, UH System Chancellor **Renu Khator**, State Rep. **Geanie Morrison**, State Sen. **Glenn Hegar,** and numerous city and county officials for a ceremonial signing of **House Bill 1056** in August. The legislation paved the way for the university to add freshmen and sophomores in the fall of 2010. Two weeks later, the university announced its new **Degree in Three** program, the first three-year bachelor's degree offered by a Texas public university. The program will start in fall 2010.

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