

For Immediate Release

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Leadership Women, Inc. (LW) announces The Leadership Texas Class of 2016 90 women competitively selected to explore "The Future of Community: A State of Possibilities"

Maricela Zapata, Construction Manager, AGCM, Inc., has been selected to join an elite network of more than 6,000 women as a member of the Leadership Texas Class of 2016.

Maricela is one of 90 outstanding women leaders competitively selected from across the state to participate in the longest-running women's leadership development program in the US. Throughout the year-long program, she will have the opportunity to broaden her perspective on our state by exploring the issues in four Texas cities and receiving cutting-edge information from recognized experts, government officials and other thought leaders which will positively inform her work and community for years to come. Leadership Texas, now in its 34th consecutive year, is the flagship program of LW, a nonprofit social enterprise.

Launched in 1983 as the first statewide program for women's leadership development, Leadership Texas is patterned after, though not affiliated with, the co-educational civic programs that have found success in a number of cities throughout the state and nation. Leadership Texas is designed specifically to help women learn about critical issues outside of their own industries and spheres of influence. Great leaders recognize that it is necessary to understand the cultural, social and economic shifts before us and the programming of Leadership Texas provides opportunities and access to help the women impact the future of our evolving state.

"The theme for the 2016 program year is 'The Future of Community: A State of Possibilities.' Participants will visit San Antonio, Amarillo, Corpus Christi and Austin, where each city's opportunities and response to challenges will be highlighted," noted Linda Crompton, LW's new CEO.

Through the generous contributions of the Leadership Texas Program Partners, the program continues to provide the most up-to-date information on leadership and issues affecting Texas. Corporate Program Partners providing major support for Leadership Texas 2016 include Blue Cross Blue Shield, Pfizer, Southwest Airlines and Texas Instruments.

Program Partners provide more than financial support for the program; their women leaders also participate in the Leadership Texas program, building connections for the benefit of their company, community and state,

Leadership Women, Inc.

Leadership Texas is a program of Leadership Women, Inc. (LW). Established in Austin, Texas, in 1974, LW seeks to advance the power of leadership and legacy through programs that connect, inspire, empower and honor women. To extend LW's message of strength and build bridges to and opportunities for women, LW founded Leadership America in 1988 and helped in the creation of complementary women's programs in California, Illinois, Missouri and North Carolina, among others. LW also established the nation's first comprehensive women's history museum, The Women's Museum: An Institute for the Future, which opened in Dallas, Texas, in association with the Smithsonian Institution in 2000. Since 1996, LW has been offering a series of national retreats for emerging women leaders called Leadership Pipeline. In 2009, LW launched one day conferences and workshops. Their Leadership International program traveled to India in 2013, South Africa in 2014, and Mexico in 2015 and will travel to Scandinavia in 2016. For additional information please go to www.leadership-women.org.
