



Literacy Advance of Houston

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Nancy Barry to be honored as Champion of Literacy

(Houston, November 7, 2008) Literacy Advance of Houston is pleased to name Nancy Barry, author, speaker and Gen Y expert as a Champions of Literacy recipient. Author of *When Reality Hits: What Employers Want Recent College Graduates to Know*, Nancy will be honored during a breakfast at The Junior League of Houston on Wednesday, January 28, 2009. The breakfast will be followed by a book signing.

Rick Gillis, host of Rick Gillis Employment Radio on ESPN 97.5 FM, will emcee the event. "Nancy is great; she's been on the show a number of times. Those of us of a certain age know a lot of the information in this book, but Nancy tries to prevent a lot of scraped knees and elbows for the twentysomethings out there."

In Nancy's book, she shares the secrets to success – mastering the "soft skills" in the workplace. She tells new recruits what managers want them to know and don't have time to tell them.

Prior to starting her own company, Nancy spent 25 years in the corporate world. She served as vice president of community services for *The Dallas Morning News* and WFAA-TV and vice president for The Dallas Morning News Charities. Nancy is a member of the National Speakers Association and the National Association of Colleges and Employers. She understands Gen Y – she's raised, hired and mentored them.

"Nancy has been championing literacy for years," states Jane Holston, Executive Director of Literacy Advance. Nancy was on the Board of the Dallas Literacy Council for several years. "Her message is one that business leaders, human resources professionals and parents of college-aged children will want to hear and share."

Nancy is pleased to accept the honor and joining other previous Champions of Literacy recipients including: Andrea White, Oliver Luck, Larry Dierker, Rena Pederson, Peter Roussel, and Van Chancellor among others. Literacy Advance has been teaching adult literacy classes for 45 years in Houston. Their mission is make Houston a more literate city by teaching adults to read, write and communicate effectively in English in order to reach their full potential.

The Champions of Literacy Series is a multi-annual fundraising and public awareness series that seeks to promote literacy by acknowledging those who have made a difference in the community. Literacy Advance is grateful to have Nancy Barry join in their efforts in bringing awareness to the illiteracy issues facing Houston. All proceeds benefit Literacy Advance and their free classes offered to the community.

For interviews or sponsorship information, contact Judy McFarland at 713-266-8777; ext 22 or judy.mcfarland@literacyadvance.org.