
LAREDO AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Inspired by Generosity, Empowered by Giving

January 8, 2018

Dear Friends,

Your organization is invited to select its own Volunteer of the Year by March 1, 2018 for the event where your volunteer and nonprofit organization will be recognized by the LACF. LACF and Laredo Morning Times will announce the recipient of the Jefferson Award for Public Service chosen from the evening's honorees. The LACF Acorn Award will be awarded to the winner's sponsoring organization.

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Since the founding of our great nation, volunteerism and public service have been integral to the American culture and experience. The spirit of giving and service is also synonymous with the culture and fabric of Laredo. The Laredo Area Community Foundation and Laredo Morning Times are partnering to honor the spirit of volunteerism. The LACF Acorn and Jefferson Award Banquet will take place on Thursday, March 29, 2018 at 6:30pm at the IBC Bank Annex, 2416 Jacaman Road. International Bank of Commerce is generously sponsoring the event and Tables of 10 are available for \$500.

The uniqueness of this event is that it will not only honor and encourage public service, but also benefit the charity represented by the recipient of the Jefferson Acorn Award in perpetuity through the establishment of a \$2,500 Acorn Fund with the LACF. The winning charity has the responsibility to fulfill the terms of an Acorn Endowment Fund within 5 years to the minimum balance of \$10,000. If the charity already has a fund with the LACF, the \$2500 will be deposited to that fund.

In addition, the Laredo Morning Times will sponsor travel to Washington, D.C. for the Jefferson Award winner, where (s)he will represent Laredo and the surrounding area at the National Jefferson Awards Ceremony held in June, 2018. The winner will be honored along with hundreds of other Jefferson Award winners from across the country, also chosen in contests conducted by local media.

The coveted Jefferson Award was established in 1972 by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis to serve as an equivalent to the Nobel Prize for public service in America. Since then, more than 50,000 "unsung heroes" from across America have received Jefferson Awards in their own communities. Locally, the Laredo Morning Times has honored a Jefferson Award winner for the past ten years.

The Laredo Area Community Foundation was established in 2005 for the purpose of mobilizing local resources in support of area nonprofit organizations like yours. To date, the foundation has grown to nearly \$11 million in assets and distributed more than \$3.6 million from established funds to assist surrounding area charities, scholarship programs and other areas of need in our surrounding community.

As one of our community's outstanding nonprofit organizations, you are encouraged to participate in this fitting tribute to your finest volunteers. Please reserve your organization's table no later than March 15 by calling Nancy de Anda at 956-763-9960 or Elizabeth Sames at 956-206-1121.

We truly hope you are able to join us in honoring the spirit of volunteerism and the people that embody it!

Sincerely,



Keith W. Franklin

Serving South Texas since 2005