

# Neuhaus News

FALL 2009

VOLUME XXXIII • NO. 1

## *Sponsor a Teacher*

Teaching a child to read will positively impact that child's life forever. Providing teachers with the knowledge and skills needed to teach all students to read is an investment in the future of our Houston community, our state, and our nation.



- 200 teachers will teach 4,400 students: \$10,000
- 100 teachers will teach 2,200 students: \$ 5,000
- 50 teachers will teach 1,100 students: \$ 2,500
- 25 teachers will teach 550 students: \$ 1,000
- 12 teachers will teach 264 students: \$ 500
- 6 teachers will teach 132 students: \$ 250
- 3 teachers will teach 66 students: \$ 125
- 1 teacher will teach 22 students: \$ 75

Please consider Sponsoring a Teacher today by going to [www.neuhaus.org/sponsor-a-teacher](http://www.neuhaus.org/sponsor-a-teacher)

*Thank you!*



**SAVE THE DATE** for The International Dyslexia Association's 60th Annual Conference at The Walt Disney World Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Florida, from November 11-14, 2009. Neuhaus Education Center's Vice President of Research & Program Development Suzanne Carreker is serving as this year's conference co-chair.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Suzanne Carreker, author of many Neuhaus manuals, on receiving the HBIDA Nancy LaFevers Community Service Award. The Houston Branch of The International Dyslexia Association created the Award in 2006 to recognize Branch members who made outstanding contributions to students with dyslexia and related language learning differences in the Houston community.

## *Upcoming Events*

### **NEUHAUS 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

**Wednesday, September 16, 5:30 – 7 pm**

Neuhaus Education Center

30 candles...51,000 teachers...5.7 million readers



### **WILLARD WIGAN EXHIBIT OPENING RECEPTION**

**Saturday, October 3, 6 pm**

Gremillion & Co. Fine Art, Inc.

Benefits Neuhaus Education Center Jamaican Project

Tickets: \$100, VIP Reception \$200

Contact: Rose Spencer at 713.550.6464 or

[rspencer@bwgmedia.com](mailto:rspencer@bwgmedia.com)



### **FRIENDS OF NEUHAUS · RE(A)D & WHITE BASH**

**Friday, November 6, 7 – 11 pm**

Winter Street Studios

Chairs: Shawn Stephens & Margaret Young

Co-chairs: Krista Barnes & Robyn Goldstein

Honoree: Willard Wigan, international micro-sculptor

Tickets: \$50, Underwriter Opportunities from \$250

Contact: Alissa Johnston at 713.664.7676 ext. 210 or [ajohnston@neuhaus.org](mailto:ajohnston@neuhaus.org)



### **NEUHAUS READING CIRCLE TEA WITH LAURA NUMEROFF**

**Monday, October 12, 4:30 – 6 pm**

Junior League of Houston

Chairs: Carolyn Corbett and Amy Melton

Contact: Alissa Johnston at 713.664.7676 ext. 210 or [ajohnston@neuhaus.org](mailto:ajohnston@neuhaus.org)

# Donor Spotlight



Graham Neuhaus, Mike Cullinan,  
Charlotte Taylor

## CHARLOTTE DARBY TAYLOR

Even though Charlotte Taylor has only been a member of the Neuhaus Education Center Advisory Board and Development Committee for two years, she has become our go-to person for Luncheon details and securing the Luncheon keynote speaker. She co-chaired this year's 2009 Luncheon, introducing new friends to Neuhaus, many of whom served on the Luncheon host committee. Charlotte is a native Houstonian and graduate of the University of Houston. When she's not busy volunteering for Neuhaus, you can find Charlotte working as a sales assistant for Martha Turner Properties.

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NEUHAUS EDUCATION CENTER  
LEGACY OF LITERACY

## LEGACY OF LITERACY

Neuhaus Education Center founded *Legacy of Literacy* in 2007 to ensure that the next generation of teachers will receive the instruction they need to teach all students how to read. This society is comprised of generous individuals who have committed to the work of Neuhaus Education Center through thoughtful estate planning. By joining, members are allowing a planned gift to do what they care about most: create the readers of tomorrow.

To join or find out more about *Legacy of Literacy*, please call 713.664.7676 ext. 206.

# A Word from the CEO



As Neuhaus Education Center enters its thirtieth year of providing professional development for teachers, we are grateful for the on-going support of our many donors and the passion and dedication of our staff. In spite of economic challenges at home and uncertainties in the world, Neuhaus continues to thrive, innovate, expand, and move forward towards the realization of our vision—a Neuhaus educated teacher in every classroom, in every school.

As we look to the next thirty years, we know for certain that technology will play an ever-increasing role in the creation, delivery, and reach of our services. Combining that "Neuhaus touch" with leading-edge technology will distinguish Neuhaus from other providers of teacher professional development, and will continue to keep Neuhaus at the forefront of literacy instruction in Houston, in Texas, and, indeed, the world.

On behalf of all readers everywhere, we thank you for your commitment to our journey.

*Russanne*

## Neuhaus Welcomes Three New Board Members

Assuming three-year commitments on the Board of Trustees are former Advisory Board members Martin Debrovner, David A. Hanse, and Lori S. Machiorlette.



**MARTIN** is the husband of long-time board member Linda Debrovner. He recently retired from Weingarten Realty where he served as CFO. Martin will serve on the Executive Committee as treasurer for the 2009 – 2010 year.



**DAVID** is a CPA in energy investment banking at Morgan Keegan & Company. After serving on the Audit Committee this past year, David has agreed to be its chair. In addition, David is very involved in Neuhaus' development efforts.



**LORI** has been involved with Neuhaus on the Advisory Board since 2004. She previously co-chaired the Neuhaus Forum, and serves on the Marketing Committee.

## The Places Neuhaus Goes

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**Regina Boulware-Gooden, Ph.D.,** and **Rai Thompson** presented *Language Enrichment*, Montego Bay, Jamaica.

**Suzanne Carreker** presented at the annual conference of the Alabama Branch of The International Dyslexia Association (IDA), Birmingham, AL, and was the keynote speaker at the annual conference of the Georgia Branch of IDA, Atlanta, GA.

**Suzanne** presented at the *Plain Talk About Reading* Institute, Chicago, IL, and also at the Yale Conference on Dyslexia and Creativity, Yale University, New Haven, CT.

**Mary North** presented at the 14th Annual State Dyslexia Summer Institute, Region 10 Education Service Center, Richardson, TX.

**Mary Yarus** participated in *A Forum on Dyslexia*, The Golden Triangle Regional Group of the Houston Branch of IDA, Beaumont, TX.



Rai Thompson(l), Regina Boulware-Gooden(r), Sharon Anderson-Morgan, Marcia Foster and Evelyn Walden with Jamaican teachers.



## Language and Literacy

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This summer, Houston Independent School District (HISD) teachers in Grades K-2 attended professional development on the importance of oral language in learning to read. The professional development was part of HISD's *Literacy Leads the Way* initiative designed to improve the overall literacy skills of the district's 200,000 students. Participant Cheryl Gail Simon of E. M. Young Elementary School offered these reflections about the professional development: "Research has documented that student success in 'life' depends on mastery of reading skills. Students most affected by a lack of reading skills are those who live in poverty. Therefore, programs offered by

Neuhaus are instrumental in promoting early mastery of fundamental oral language and reading skills. More programs such as yours are needed to uphold social justice and assure no child is left behind. Thanks on behalf of our nation's children."

## Neuhaus & SMU Partnership

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This fall, Neuhaus Education Center and the Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development at Southern Methodist University (SMU) are partnering to offer a Master of Education with Reading Specialization in Houston. All classes will be held at Neuhaus. Upon completion of the 38-hour degree program and with three years of teaching experience, participants are eligible to sit for the Reading Specialist Certification Exam and the Alliance National Registration Exam for Teaching Level Certification for membership in the Academic Language Therapy Association (ALTA). Individuals interested in joining the program in fall 2010 should contact Dr. Regina Boulware-Gooden for more information, 713.644.7676.



## New Neuhaus Technology

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[www.readingteachersnetwork.org](http://www.readingteachersnetwork.org) · Put Neuhaus in your pocket!  
RTN is an innovative online teaching resource created by Neuhaus.

Make sure to visit the redesign of our Neuhaus Education Center website. [www.neuhaus.org](http://www.neuhaus.org)

Thanks to a generous three-year gift of \$500,000 from Steve and Suzanne Harter to establish the Suzanne Harter Literacy & Technology Chair, all Neuhaus classrooms have been technologically upgraded. A video conferencing cart and six laptop computers were purchased to conduct distance and off-site professional development. This money also funded the development of Language Enrichment as an online class.

# *A Letter from a Parent*

I am writing this letter to inform those who have not heard about Neuhaus, an organization that has changed our lives. Neuhaus gave us hope as we looked through a dark tunnel called Dyslexia.

Our first guardian angel was Mary Yarus. She came into our lives at a time that was not a happy one. She and my son, Hayden, developed a special bond. She gave us hope and informed us everything was going to be all right. I don't ever think Hayden thought of working with Mary as a class or a tutorial. He just thought we were going to her house to have fun.



We are now on our second guardian angel, Sandy Colt. Now that we are in high school, we need to concentrate on other areas such as the writing process.

I have recommended Neuhaus to everyone I know. I strongly believe that every child (with learning differences or not) should have the experience of working with someone like Mary Yarus or Sandy Colt. I believe it would make our children stronger readers, better writers, and all around more confident.

I can't say enough about Neuhaus, the staff, and teachers, like Mary and Sandy, who have benefitted from Neuhaus instruction, like Mary and Sandy. It is Neuhaus that not only saved my son, but saved my family.

Sincerely,  
Christina LeDoux

## 2009 Seminars for Parents

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**COLLEGE SHARE** provides information to college-bound high school students with learning differences, their parents, and interested professionals, to prepare for a successful college experience.

### ***Parenting Approaches for Successful College Launching***

Monday, September 21, 7:30 - 9 pm

Sophia Havasy, Ph.D., Tarnow Center for Self-Management, will speak to parents about how to help their high-school students gain the necessary self-management skills to be successful in college.

Event cost: Free

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**FRIDAYS@NEUHAUS** is an annual seminar series designed to give parents information and strategies for working with their children to build literacy skills and to foster understanding of learning difficulties.

### ***Parents, Progeny, and Power Struggles***

Friday, October 23, 9 am – 12pm

Carol Brady, Ph.D., clinical psychologist and contributor to ADDitude magazine, will lead parents to discover some alternatives to power struggles with their children and see what strategies will work with their family.

Event cost: \$35

### ***Comprehension and Vocabulary Tips for Parents***

Friday, November 6, 9 am – 12 p.m.

Mary French, M.Ed., CALT, and instructional staff at Neuhaus, will offer reading comprehension strategies that help students "think about their thinking as they read" and activities that develop deep meanings of words.

Appropriate for parents of students in grades 3-8

Event cost: \$35

For more information and to register, please go to [www.neuhaus.org/parent-resources](http://www.neuhaus.org/parent-resources) or call Parent Resources at 713.664.7676. DVDs of past programs are available in the Collie library at Neuhaus.

## Neuhaus Prepares

Members of Neuhaus' Dyslexia Specialist Preparation Program (DSPP) Class of 2009 receive their record of completion. Graduate Sally Curtain summarized her experience, "There is something magical that happens as the pieces of literacy begin to fall into place. ... The DSPP has been a deeply rewarding experience both personally and professionally, and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to be a part of it."



Members of the first Neuhaus Education Center/University of St. Thomas master's program cohort celebrate. The cohort members were awarded a Master of Education degree upon successful completion of the 36-hour program that included 12 hours of Neuhaus classes. The graduates are eligible to sit for the Reading Specialist Certification Exam.

## Neuhaus Publishes

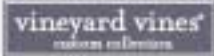





Joshi, R. M., Binks, E., Graham, L., Dean, E., Smith, D., & Boulware-Gooden, R. (in press). Do textbooks used in university reading education courses conform to the instructional recommendations of the National Reading Panel? *Journal of Learning Disabilities*.

Joshi, R. M., & Carreker, S. (2009). Spelling: Development, assessment, and instruction. In G. Reid (Ed.), *The Routledge companion to dyslexia*. London, UK: Routledge.

Joshi, R. M., Treiman, R., Carreker, S., & Moats, L. (2008/2009). How words cast their spell: Spelling instruction focused on language, not memory, improves reading and writing. *The American Educator*, 32 (4), 6-16, 42-43.

**"THE TRADITIONAL TIE IS MAKING A COMEBACK"** according to a June 2009 Houston Chronicle article. Stay current with the trend by purchasing a custom tie by Vineyard Vines made exclusively for Neuhaus Education Center. The cost is \$75 with a portion of the proceeds benefitting Neuhaus. To order, complete and mail this form to Neuhaus Education Center, 4433 Bissonnet, Bellaire, Texas 77401. Ties may be picked up at Neuhaus.


  
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Cash and Checks also accepted.  
Please make checks payable to Neuhaus Education Center.





**NOT A RUNNER?** You can walk. Yes, you can! Neuhaus is thrilled to be an Official 2009 - 2010 Charity for the Chevron Houston Marathon's Run for a Reason. Please join the Neuhaus Education Center team on January 17, 2010, in Running for Better Readers with Brighter Futures. You can run, walk, or cheer. Sign up today at [www.chevronhoustonmarathon.com](http://www.chevronhoustonmarathon.com).

# Recent Donations

The following generous donors have made gifts of \$500 or more to Neuhaus Education Center between 1/7/09 and 7/15/09.

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# Neuhaus Education Center

## Our Mission

Neuhaus Education Center, a nonprofit foundation established in 1980, is dedicated to providing professional development for educators in research-based methods of literacy instruction. We provide a structured approach to teaching the basic language skills of reading, writing, and spelling – an approach that is valuable for all students and essential for those with dyslexia. In addition, Neuhaus is a resource for parental consultation and for adults seeking literacy education.

## Our Vision

Neuhaus will be the source for renewal, creativity, and successful reading instruction for every teacher in every school.

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713.664.7676.

## *What Teachers Say*

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### About Neuhaus Classes

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I am confident that Neuhaus principles and methods will make the difference between being a good teacher and an excellent one.

*Steve Lewis*  
*Houston ISD*

I enjoyed this class and can't wait for school to start so that I can implement Neuhaus in my classroom.

*Kimberly Moriarty*  
*Anderson-Shiro CISD*

The instructional staff was very knowledgeable. They expressed enthusiasm when teaching this course.

*Suzanne Ratcliff*  
*Stephen F. Austin State University cohort*