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**Neuhaus Education Center 2023 Literacy Lights the Way Luncheon**  
*Celebrating the Gift of Literacy for All*

**HOUSTON, Texas** (April 26, 2023) – Neuhaus Education Center hosted its Literacy Lights the Way luncheon on April 18, 2023 at The Post Oak Hotel at Uptown, chaired by Ethel and Chap Hutcheson and Laura and Chris Hutcheson highlighting the importance of literacy as a human right and its ability to combat poverty and transform communities for generations.

“In a knowledge economy, equity and access intersect with educators teaching reading right the first time for every child, while identifying and serving children with reading disabilities,” stated Tracy White Weeden, Ed.D., President and CEO of Neuhaus Education Center. “Supporting our mission is effectively lifting the weary hands of educators in the most honorable profession. The investment of *Literacy for All* positions Neuhaus Education Center to make this life-changing and lifesaving work possible.”

The event featured dyslexic actor, author, and literacy advocate Ameer Baraka as the keynote speaker. He shared his inspiring story of overcoming social and economic barriers due to his inability to read, and his subsequent championing of prison reform and dyslexia awareness. Lisa Malosky Productions highlighted the need for more dyslexia specialists within the Houston region with a compelling video of Neuhaus’ impact. “Neuhaus Education Center is the only provider training those desperately needed dyslexia specialists in the greater Houston area,” said Lara Speights, Vice President of Family Support and Adult Literacy. “Houston is a desert in terms of access to thoroughly trained and licensed dyslexia specialists, and we are committed to changing that.” Longtime supporters Marjorie and Palmer Hutcheson were also honored at the event. They have been strong advocates of Neuhaus serving on the board of directors and in various other leadership roles. “Marjorie knows first-hand the importance of our work, as she’s been a participant in our dyslexia certification programs and has worked with students with dyslexia for many years,” said White Weeden.

The 2023 Literacy Light the Way host committee included Leslie Blanton; Laura and Seth Borland; Lucia and Louis Brandt; Kathleen Noel Camp; DeBra and George Edwards; Ruth and Dan Flournoy; Anne Frischkorn; Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Goehringer; Joanie and Don Haley; Cecilia and Emerson Hankamer; Jennifer Jeffery; Ann Johnson; Patty and Neil Kallmeyer; Katherine and Matthew Kardesch; Klinka and John Lollar; Anne and Jack Moriniere; Graham and Ed Neuhaus; Susan and Charlie Neuhaus; Jennifer and Will Neuhaus; Betsey and Bob Phillips; Lenox and John Reed; Eloise and David T. Searls Jr; Kristen Oesch Stubbs; Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Taylor; Leslie and Eric Wade; Elizabeth and Peter Wareing; Janna and David Webber; and Gabrielle and Rallin Welch.

**About Neuhaus Education Center**

Neuhaus Education Center is committed to promoting *Literacy for All*. Their mission is to promote reading success by providing evidence-based professional development to educators, information and resources to families, and direct services to adult learners.

Visit [www.neuhaus.org](http://www.neuhaus.org) to learn more.

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