



Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs 2006 Fundraising Awards Reception

On Tuesday, January 24, 2006, BJ-ML SOPA held its 2006 Fundraising Awards Reception at the Forest Club in Houston, Texas. Alison Leland, the widow of the late Congressman George "Mickey" Leland, and Rose Mary McGowen, the late Congresswoman Barbara Jordan's sister, attended the event along with Justice of the Peace Zinetta Burney, Harris County Constable May Walker, Sylvia Brooks, President and CEO of the Houston Area Urban League, John Guess, Mark Davis and other community leaders and BJ-ML SOPA Alumni. State Representative Garnet Coleman was represented by Ms. Camille Foster, a Texas Southern University Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs Political Science student.

Several outstanding individuals were recognized with awards from BJ-ML SOPA. Designed and produced by the TSU Office of Marketing and Communications, the awards were presented by Dr. Theophilus Herrington, Interim Dean of BJ-ML SOPA within three categories:

Barbara Jordan Community Advocate Award

An individual who has been an outspoken champion on behalf of those in our city, state, nation or internationally who have historically been marginalized, excluded, overlooked or neglected in the public policy development and decision-making processes.

Mickey Leland Community Leadership Award

An individual who has provided political or civic leadership at the local, state, national or international levels in making a positive difference in politically empowering people of color and serving the common good. The person need not be a public officeholder.

Benjamin Banneker Community Builder Award

An individual who has provided leadership in impacting the physical enhancement or quality of life of Houston or any other urban city in America or the world.

Special thanks to Ebony Sparks, John Marshall and the TSU Office of Marketing and Communications for their participation in making the event a success.

2006 BJ-ML SOPA Fundraising Awards Reception Donors

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Pontikes Pledge \$100,000 at the BJ-ML School of Public Affairs Reception



During the Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs fundraising reception, event Co-Chairs George and Laura Pontikes pledged to donate another \$100,000 to the BJ-ML SOPA.

The Pontikes had previously pledged \$100,000 to BJ-ML SOPA two years ago to start the George and Laura Pontikes Scholarship Fund. Twenty thousand of their initial pledge has already been provided to BJ-ML SOPA through the TSU Foundation.

The new pledge is an unrestricted gift to be used for the "greatest needs" of the school. Ten thousand dollars of the newest pledges were presented to BJ-ML SOPA on the day after the reception.

2006 Honorees

Barbara Jordan Community Advocate Award
Robin German-Curtis & Theola Petteway

Mickey Leland Community Leadership Award
Anthony Hall

Benjamin Banneker Community Builder Award
John W. "Johnny" Johnson & Arthur "Art" Storey