



HOUSTON HOSPICE
Life Matters

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Nancy and Bryan Ruez to Receive Community Spirit Award

On behalf of Spirit Award Chairmen, Mary Ellen and Bruce Meyer, we are thrilled to announce that Nancy and Bryan Ruez will receive the **2018 Laura Lee Blanton Community Spirit Award on October 16, 2018** at a festive dinner celebration at the River Oaks Country Club, 1600 River Oaks Blvd.

“Nancy and Bryan reflect the true spirit of our mission and deeply care about the community,” says Cynthia Nordt, Houston Hospice Vice President of Development and External Affairs. “They are remarkable people and have been a blessing for the city of Houston. We are thrilled to honor them and the enormous impact they have made. Wherever and whenever Nancy and Bryan dedicate themselves you see a tangible difference by their involvement.”



Nancy Ruez has lived in Houston for 40 years and recently returned three years ago. She and her family have lived around the U.S. including in Ohio, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and New York. Nancy is highly involved in several organizations.

Nancy Co-Chaired a successful \$5 Million Capital Campaign for Houston Hospice in 2012. She serves on the Finance Committee of the Houston Community College Foundation Board and Opportunity 14 Scholarship Committee; is Chairman of the Education Committee for the Houston Museum of Natural Science and on the Executive Committee; and is Chairman of the Advisory Committee for the Children’s Learning Institute (CLI) for The University of Texas Medical School at Houston where she is also on its Advisory Council.

In addition to board positions, Nancy volunteers with the Houston Ladies Tennis Association, Junior League of Houston, River Oaks Luncheon Club, Texas Children’s Hospital Ambassadors, The American Cancer Society – Cattle Baron’s Ball, The Salvation Army Women’s Auxiliary, and West Houston Ladies Tennis Association. She is a former chair of the Houston Museum of Natural Science Guild and annual gala. She co-chaired Houston A+ Challenge Dinner, Houston Hospice Butterfly Luncheon and Yellowstone Academy Luncheon. Nancy attended Texas A&M University.

She and Bryan have two sons, William and Christopher, and two grandchildren. Along with family and friends, volunteering and playing tennis, Nancy spends time with her four Cavalier King Charles Spaniels.

One of the best examples of how Nancy and Bryan serve the community is found in their tireless support of childhood learning which became a top priority when oldest son William was a third grader who struggled with dyslexia.

Teachers doubted that William would even graduate from college, but he proved them wrong, going on to receive a master's degree in economics from Southern Methodist University.

If he could achieve this success then Nancy and Bryan knew there were opportunities for other children to as well, which led them to CLI and its work in psychology, neurodevelopment, education and child development to give children a solid educational foundation. Nancy was driven by the difference the program could make for children whose learning disability put them at risk of succeeding in education.

Bryan Ruez has more than 35 years of experience leading the growth and development of global and regional consulting businesses. Bryan is a Managing Director and the Global Practice Leader of Alvarez & Marsal Dispute and Investigations. He joined Alvarez & Marsal in 2003 and led the firm's overall Global Corporate Development efforts, where he played a key role in the development and growth of the firm's non-restructuring business. He is a leader in recruiting, building and testing new business practices at Alvarez & Marsal, helping the firm reach several milestones.

Prior to Alvarez & Marsal, he spent 22 years at former Big Five accounting firm Arthur Andersen, where he served as a Regional Managing Partner of Andersen's Tax and Business Advisory Practice. He also served as a Regional Managing Partner for Andersen's Outsourcing Services practice and was a member of Andersen's Outsourcing Services leadership team. He was a founding Partner of the State and Local Tax Services practice, and was the National Leader for the Property Tax and Transactional Tax practices. Born and raised in Houston, Bryan earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Texas A&M University and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

He serves on the Board of Directors for the YMCA of Greater Houston. Bryan has a strong personal connection to Houston Hospice. Two of his family members, his father Bill Ruez and brother Michael Ruez, were cared for by Houston Hospice. "The realization that a family member was terminally ill turned our world upside down," said Ruez. "The unknowns of what to expect and how to care for our loved ones were almost unbearable. Our family's introduction to Houston Hospice was a blessing."

To honor Houston Hospice, Nancy co-chaired a successful Capital Campaign that added a third floor to the inpatient unit at the Margaret Cullen Marshall Hospice Care Center.

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