

**SOUTHWEST JEWISH CONGRESS
2018 TEXAS SIZED EVENT AWARD RECIPIENTS**

**Audrey Kaplan Inspiring Women
Lifetime Achievement Award**

DONNA C. PIERCE

- Dedicated to mentoring young people and to working with the local, national, and International Planetarium Society
- American Field Service (AFS): Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter; Highland Park High School Sponsor and Liaison
- A major woman of science and a Fellow of the International Planetarium Society
- Guest of the Jet Propulsion Lab of Voyager II in 1977; received the Distinguished Service Award by the Dallas Health and Science Museum (1968-72)
- Past President Architect Wives Club, North Texas High School Golf Coaches Association, Southwestern Association of Planetariums
- Girl Scouts of North East Texas: active SU 160 Team member; Boy Scout Astronomy Merit Badge Counselor



**Stan Golden Men of Action
Lifetime Achievement**

GARY GRIFFITH

- Current President of the Today Foundation whose mission is to positively impact the lives of young people through leadership and character development, environmental education and historic preservation
- Board Member Citizen's Advisory Board at the Dallas County District Attorney's Office; Advocates for Community Transformation (ACT); State Fair of Texas Association; Imagination Station; Dallas Summer Musicals; Former leadership roles with Garland Road Vision program; Sig Ep Educational Foundation; Texas Hospital Association; State Commission on Judicial Conduct; Texas Optometry Board, and the Texas Lyceum Association; Dallas City Council; Safer Dallas-Better Dallas; Support Our Public Schools; White Rock Lake Conservancy; Greater Dallas Planning Council; Dallas City Park Board; Planning and Zoning Commission; Rotary Club of Dallas; Child Care Dallas; Dallas Ballet at a University of Texas Ex-Students Association of Dallas.



**2018 Audrey Kaplan Inspiring Women
of the Southwest Award Recipients**

SEJAL DESAI

- Business Director for Communities Foundation of Texas, involving over 100 companies in philanthropic and educational events
- Co-founder, Orchid Giving Circle; founder SevaYatra, social enterprise offering volunteerism and voluntourism opportunities in India
- Prior Principal at MHT Partners, investment bank in Dallas, championing US/India business mergers and acquisitions
- Leading Board, Advisory, membership or volunteer roles at: North Texas Food Bank, DFW South Asian Film Festival, Opportunity Plus, Dallas Assembly, StewPot, Hunger Busters, Think India Foundation, Texas Credit Union, Leadership Richardson
- Master/Liberal Studies, SMU; MBA at UT Dallas; Chartered Accountant at the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India



**2018 Stan Golden Men of Action
Award Recipients**

STEVE DENSON

- Cox Director of Diversity and Community Engagement at SMU; teaches courses in Negotiation at multiple levels
- Created a scholarship to support Clements American Indian research; assists the Archaeological Collection and Curation Committee in repatriating human remains/funerary objects
- Member, SMU's Turner's Commission on the Status of Racial Minorities; advises minority/ student associations
- Hosts corporate, agency and international visitors to SMU and Paul Quinn College to connect and highlight students
- Collaborates with the Doc Arnette Foundation to teach financial literacy to high school students
- Designated "American Indian Individual of the Year" by American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Texas



LISA ATLAS GENECOV

- Partner and Head of Healthcare Transactions, Dallas at Norton, Rose Fulbright; Fellow, American Bar Association
- Volunteer at Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas; Board Member, Vice Chair (2014-2017), Chair of Lawyers Division, Lawyers, Pacesetters and Young Leadership
- Chair and Co-chair of several committees and Member of the Council of the American Bar Association Health Law Section (ABAHLs); Co-founder, Center for Women in Law at UT Austin School of Law
- Past leadership roles: Diversity Coordinating Committee and editorial board of ABAHLs
- Designations: "Lawyer of the Year, Dallas Healthcare Law," 2018, Top 50 most powerful Women in Law in Dallas (by the National Diversity Council; Who's Who in Healthcare 2013 named by the Dallas Business Journal; Texas Super Lawyers; America's Leading Lawyers for Business by Chambers USA and winner of the Bill Finkelstein Award of the Cardoza Society.



DON HOOTON, SR.

- 2004 founder and current Executive Chairman President, Taylor Hooton Foundation, "the little organization that could" making a national impact against use of anabolic steroids and other Appearance and Performance Enhancing Substances included nutritional/dietary supplements
- National spokesperson against use of enhancing drugs by youth, including multiple appearances before Congress, state legislatures, and television and radio programs
- Member of the Advisory Board of Digital Citizens Alliance which educates the public on making the Web a safer place for consumers
- Hosts "Hoot's Corner" on the Web, with latest findings on enhancing drug issues
- Designated "Texas Sports Personality of the Year" by the *Dallas Morning News*; named "Top 100 Most Influential Sports Educators in America" by the Institute for International Sport
- 33 years in the telecommunications software business



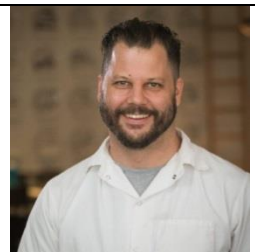
SUSIE JENNINGS

- Registered nurse, "The Blanket Lady," advocate for the homeless
- Founder, Operation Care International
- Addresses homeless issues in 10 countries, from Brazil to Taiwan/China Cambodia
- Has had featured stories of her work in 10 publications, including *The Dallas Morning News*
- Global Humanitarian Award, Continental "Who's Who", nine other awards for philanthropy



CHAD HOUSER

- Founder and Executive Chef of Cafe Momentum, restaurant and training center for adjudicated youth
- Renowned chef and former co-owner of Parigi Restaurant
- Member, El Centro College Fund, Food & Hospitality Institute; former president, Dallas Farmers Market Friends; vice-chair El Centro Executives
- Featured in Starbucks "Upstanders"
- Designated a "Best Business Leader in Dallas"; *Dallas Business's* "40 under 40" and the 2015 "Ten Outstanding Young Americans" by the Junior Jaycees



**SOUTHWEST JEWISH CONGRESS
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(continued)**

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MARTY MARKS

- Real Estate top producer and relocation industry expert for Virginia Cook Realtors
- Bilingual, former Spanish teacher, Highland Park High School
- Leadership roles as Director of Girls, Inc of Metropolitan Dallas, Senior Source, Habitat for Humanity, Dallas Women's Foundation, DISD Realtor Task Force, and Association of Women Executives
- Volunteer at Dallas Museum of Art, Trinity River Mission Housing Authority, and Center for Non-profit Management Goodwill Ambassador for the realty profession at local, state and national levels



**2018 Stan Golden Men of Action
Award Recipients**

RICHARD MARCUS

- His passion is to help others effect change by exercising the power of their ballots
- Built a network of approximately 900 volunteer deputy registrars, developed registration events in underrepresented population groups to register new voters; provided voter and general election education; planned voter engagement events and arranged to get voters to the polls
- Has registered approximately 20,000 new voters in the past 2½ years
- Created a website "The Coalition of Justice" (coj-dallas.org) to promote voter engagement in social justice
- Formed "Make a Difference in Someone's Life", a Temple Emanu-El Sh'ma group, to make a difference in a family or individual's life by providing opportunities to them that otherwise may not be available in their time of need



MADELINE J.A.THOMAS, DDS

- Distinguished Fellow in the American College of Dentists and the International College of Dentists (Dental Honor Societies)
- Facilitator with "Rite of Passage, Inc." a Character Centered Youth Program
- First STEM Program Coordinator, Dallas Chapter of The Links, Inc. and an integral part of "Linkage to Life National Program for Wellness" for Links, Incorporated
- Volunteer for National Dental Association HEALTH NOW™, Colgate ® Bright Smiles, Bright Futures™ Community Outreach Initiatives
- Past Chairman, Board of Trustees, National Dental Association; Past President, Gulf State Dental Association of Texas, and The Texas Association of Women Dentists



BYRON SANDERS

- Advocate for education, economic development for minorities and/or underprivileged
- President/CEO of Big Thought, a creative opportunity agency
- Board member, KIPP/DFW, Children at Risk, Mayor's Star Council and Greenhill Board
- Education co-chair of WINS South Dallas Collective Impact Initiative and member, Dallas Assembly
- Named "Minority Business Leader" by *Dallas Business Journal*, TED speaker, 2017 Presidential Leadership Scholar in Who's Who in Black Dallas



Future Inspiring Women

ERIN DENISE MCGUIRE

- Senior, Greenhill School, completed her term at the School for Ethics and Global Leadership in Washington, D.C. and will attend American University in the Fall.
- Gave over 100 hours of community service at McShan Elementary School in Dallas, working with Girl Scouts to help immigrant students learn English
- Awarded Bronze Presidential Service Award, Theater Pin, Girl Scout Gold Award, Duke TJP Scholar, and Hermes Society Member
- Volunteer roles as Hill Guide, Adoption Counselor, Animal Handler, Teen Attorney and Juror at Plano Teen Court
- Participant in Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church Youth Musical, Junior Classical League, Fall Drama, and other theater productions



Future Men of Action

TREVOR BURKE

- Senior at St. Mark's School of Texas
- President of the Texas Society of the Children of the American Revolution, the oldest patriotic youth organization in the United States
- Conducted and led three significant conservation projects at Connemara Conservancy to preserve and protect the nearly extinct Blackland Prairie in Allen, Texas
- Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout, Order of the Arrow
- Given a national TEDx Talk and made numerous Earth Day presentations educating others about the Blackland Prairie, its native grasses and wildlife, and challenging them to preserve their local environment



ALEXANDRIA OWENS

- Freshman at the University of North Texas in Denton; Majoring in radio, television and film, minor in journalism
- Member of the Top Teens of America, under leadership of Top Lady of Distinction, Inc., where she is editor of the *Top Teens Times* and Statues of Women Chair
- Member of the Alzheimer and Beautification committee
- Volunteer at March for Babies, Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, 2016 AIDS Walk for the Cure, and Community Clean-up at St. Phillip's School
- Assists with feeding the homeless, mentors middle school debaters and works for beautification projects for St. Paul Church, where she is a member
- Youth Circle, Divine Guidance Circle #27 holding the highest title of Mother Matron



ZACHARY LOGAN DENN

- Senior at Yavneh Academy, planning to attend college in the Fall
- School leadership roles include: founder/president of the Human Rights Club; president, Junior World Affairs Council; member, Student Leadership Parliament
- Community leadership roles with BBYO (B'nai B'rith Youth Organization) include: Regional President, Chapter President, and Vice President of membership and the Jewish Heritage/Social Action committee
- Worked closely with the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) in planning a community Havdalah with 300 people attending, featured two speakers to discuss the current political climate of the Middle East
- In April 2018 participated in "The March of the Living" in Poland and Israel

