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**GENaustin (Girls Empowerment Network)  
Announces New Board Members**

**AUSTIN, TX** (July 15, 2010) – GENaustin today announced that the agency named seven additional members to the Board of Directors. The new board members are prominent women who are active in the Austin community and hail successful careers in a variety of industries. The women who have accepted positions on the board are Rosanna Barrios, Melissa Jones, Janis Guerrero, Ph.D., Kristen Lark, Maura Thomas, and Renee Trudeau.

“GENaustin’s Board has always been comprised of cutting-edge directors – and this new class is no different!” said Julia Cuba, Executive Director. “We are excited to welcome their innovative leadership that will undoubtedly keep us operating as a dynamic organization.”

Rossana Barrios is the Planning Manager for Travis County Information & Technology Services. From 2006–2009, Barrios served as the Council Executive to former Mayor Pro Tem Brewster McCracken, where she was in charge of Community Relations and Constituent Services. Barrios has served in many volunteer capacities, including as a Commissioner for the City of Austin’s 2005 Bond Advisory Board. She also served on the City of Austin Library Commission and the Austin Community Education Consortium and as a Commissioner on the Mexican American Cultural Center Advisory Board for the City of Austin.

Beryl "Berry" P. Crowley is the Managing Director in Major, Lindsey & Africa’s Austin, Texas office, and principle in the offices of Beryl P. Crowley, Attorney & Counselor. Berry was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1972 and the US Supreme Court Bar in 2002. Her first twenty-two years in practice were spent in a law firm setting as a partner with a general office practice at Jackson Walker, formerly Small, Craig & Werkenthin of Austin. She has served as Board Chair for the Women’s Advocacy Project and Board and Executive Committee member, Central Texas Public Broadcasting (local PBS station, KLRU). She currently serves on the Board of Visitors, McDonald Observatory, UT Department of Astronomy and the Board of Directors, Zachary Scott Theater. She currently serves on the Board of Visitors for the UT Department of Astronomy’s McDonald Observatory, and she serves on the Board of Directors for Zach Theatre.

Janis Guerrero Thompson is the Executive Director for Planning and Community Relations at Austin Independent School District. Dr. Guerrero oversees the district’s strategic planning; communications and media services; translation and interpretation services; foundation development and special projects; business partnerships; event management; ombudsman; and customer service. A native Austinite, Dr. Guerrero is an active volunteer serving as Vice Chair of

the Board of Directors for Central Texas Goodwill Industries, and as President of the Board of Directors for Executive Women in Texas Government. She serves as Chair of the City of Austin's Civil Service Commission, and serves on the Advisory Boards of the Seedling Foundation and the United Way Hispanic Community Initiative.

Melissa Jones is a member and past president of The Settlement Club of Austin, a former board member of SafePlace; the Southwestern University Board of Visitors; the University of Texas at Austin College of Natural Sciences Foundation Advisory Board; Greenlights for Non-Profit Success Advisory Board; the Advisory Board of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center; and the Blanton Museum Council. She is currently Board Secretary for the Texas Democracy Foundation, a member of the KIPP Austin Academy finance committee and a board member of both the Austin Trust Company and JT Jones Ranch.

Kristen Lark is a seasoned communicator specializing in brand positioning, consumer marketing, stakeholder communications, and issues management. A former senior vice president and partner at a leading global public relations firm, Kristen has worked with such world-class consumer brands as Visa, Yahoo!, Netflix, SBC Communications (now AT&T), Microsoft, and Dell Computer Corporation. During her career, her roles have included strategic counselor, consumer advocate, company spokesperson, and journalist.

Maura Thomas is the founder and Chief Trainer at RegainYourTime.com, an Austin-based business since 2003. Her expertise in organization and efficiency comes from 16 years in the productivity training industry. During that time, she developed a process for getting things done with low stress and increased efficiency, called the Empowered Productivity System TM. She has been invited to speak and train at business groups, conferences, events, and for corporations, large and small, nationally and internationally.

Renee Trudeau is a nationally recognized career/life balance coach and president of Austin-based Career Strategists, a coaching and consulting firm dedicated to helping professionals successfully navigate their career path. Her corporate clients include Fortune 500 companies and national women's organizations such as Ernst and Young and IBM. A sought-after career and work/life balance expert, Trudeau's work has been featured in the *New York Times*, *US News and World Report*, *Family Circle*, *Good Housekeeping*, *Working Mother*, *American Way*, *Family Circle*, *AARP* and numerous business publications and consumer media. Trudeau is the author of the award-winning *The Mother's Guide to Self-Renewal: How to Reclaim, Rejuvenate and Re-Balance Your Life* and two other titles.

For more information, please visit [www.genaustin.org](http://www.genaustin.org).

### **About GENaustin**

GENaustin's mission is to foster healthy self-esteem in girls by engaging them to explore and define their personal values and to build skills that empower them with confidence and courage to make wise choices. This type of confidence manifests itself in so many important ways, affecting how girls choose friends, who they date, and what choices they make in their education and eventually their careers. GENaustin suggests options during a time in girls' lives when they begin to feel more of the burdens, rather than the advantages of femininity.

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