# Recognized Champion of Change challenges students to look ahead

The San Marcos High School's Phoenix program hosted guest speaker Graciela Tiscareño-Sato on Monday afternoon, Oct. 17. Several Texas State University students also attended the program that was held in the Lamar cafeteria. The oldest daughter of Mexican immigrants, Tiscareño-Sato challenged students to think what they imagined themselves to be doing 30 years from now, and then shared how she had escaped the restrictions of her upbringing to become an aviator/decorated military veteran, award-winning author, bilingual consultant, multicultural publisher and founder/CEO of a global group. She holds two bachelor degrees from U.C. Berkeley, a master degree from Whitworth University and was awarded an Air Medal for combat operations over Iraq.

For her accomplishments, she is featured on the www.whitehouse. gov website under the Champions of Change pages.

As a child, she recalled standing in Colorado fields watching the white vapor trails behind planes disappear over the mountains; this was the beginning of her lifelong fascination with flying. As she became older, she felt confined by the expectations of her cultural community. She left home at 18 to become "a scholar," and received an Air Force ROTC scholarship for Berkeley. In due course, she graduated from Berkeley with two degrees and became an aviator and military officer—the only female in her cohort.

Tiscareño-Sato told the assembled students one of her favorite quotations: "If you want what you've never had, you must be willing to go where you've never been."

Again challenging the students to take a long-term view of their own lives, she said that hers has been a life of continued learning and trying new things, like stepping stones from one place to an even better place. She cited several examples of friends and fellow professionals who had backgrounds similar to hers, and who-through perseverance and determination-had achieved to become educated minority role models. She founded a company that publishes multicultural, educational books and eBooks for K-College readers, many showcasing the talents of the Latino community, and is a keynote speaker to audiences around the world.

Her bilingual children's picture book series has won international recognitions, and she urged the students to develop a love and appreciation for



Author Graciela Tiscareño-Sato interacted with students in San Marcos High School's Phoenix program. PHOTOS COURTESY OF SAN MARCOS CISD



Students listened intently to the presentation.

reading. "Literature sparks imagination," she said.

Family pride is apparent in the photos she shared of her husband and three children who support her roles outside the home, and of her parents who came to appreciate what their courageous daughter had accomplished. When given the opportunity, Tiscareño-Sato speaks with parents today who may be unknowingly holding their children back, and encourages them to give their children the gift to aspire far beyond their present circumstances.

Before concluding, she gave the high school and university students some summary points on "How to Create

- YOUR Life Story:"
  - Seek those you want to emulate: CONNECT!
- Ask for long-term mentoring
- Select carefully who you listen to
- Avoid "discouragers," negative energy

• Prepare your achievement speech. The little girl who dreamed of flying planes who grew up to be an Air Force KC-135 navigator, pilot, and instructor and who proudly shared photographs of her children visiting her cockpit, asked the students: "What stories will you tell YOUR children?"

> • Submmitted by Iris Campbell/San Marcos CISD





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# US: 'Breathtaking' theft of secrets occurred

WASHINGTON (AP) — A former National Security Agency contractor's theft of top secret government information was "breathtaking in its longevity and scale," federal prosecutors said in a court filing Thursday aimed at keeping the man locked up as the case moves forward.

The Justice Department also said it anticipated bringing additional charges against Harold T. Martin III, including under the Espionage Act, which would expose him to far harsher penalties.

The filing offers additional details about the enormous volume of information prosecutors believe he stole and reveals the Justice Department's concern that Martin is or could be in contact with a foreign government. Prosecutors note that Martin has had online communication in Russian and, if freed, "could seek refuge with a foreign government willing to shield him from facing justice."

"Given the nature of his offenses and knowledge of national secrets, he presents tremendous value to any foreign power that may wish to shelter him within or outside of the United States," prosecutors said.

A detention hearing was scheduled for Friday afternoon in Baltimore. Martin's attorneys have said he never intended to harm his country and that he does not pose a danger or a flight risk. Martin was arrested at his Maryland home in August around the same time as federal officials acknowledged an investigation into a cyberleak of purported hacking tools used by the NSA. Those documents were leaked by a group calling itself the "Shadow Brokers," but there's nothing in the latest court document explicitly connecting Martin to them.

Agents who searched Martin's home and car seized dozens of computers and electronic devices, finding classified government materials from 1996 to 2016, prosecutors said. The information includes an email chain marked as "Top Secret" and that appeared to have been printed from an official government account.

On the back of the document, prosecutors said, were handwritten notes describing the NSA's classified computer infrastructure. The notes appear "intended for an audience outside of the Intelligence Community."

Martin, a former contractor at Booz Allen Hamilton, had access to classified information since 1996, the government said. His arrest was a further blow to the NSA, coming three years after Edward Snowden — another NSA contractor who also worked at Booz Allen — disclosed to journalists details about government surveillance programs.

### **RESULTS** FROM PG. I

of the question at the CNN town hall.

Brazile, who later became the acting Democratic National Committee chairwoman, was a CNN contributor at the time she sent the email to Clinton's team. The email was one of thousands disclosed publicly by the site Wikileaks after her campaign chairman's emails were hacked. Clinton's campaign has said Russia was behind the hack.

Brazile has insisted publicly she didn't get town hall questions in advance, but has not explained why she stated explicitly that she did in the email. Brazile and Clinton's campaign have declined to confirm or deny the authenticity of the stolen emails, but there have been no indications they were doctored.

"She used these questions, studied the questions, got the perfect answer for the questions and never said that she did something that was totally wrong and inappropriate," Trump said of Clinton. He said that Brazile should resign as the head of the DNC.

## STAR FROM PG. I

eight students are working on studentled startups. Over the last three fiscal years, these startups have funded more than \$1.2 million worth of research, and collectively have raised in excess of \$28 million in equity investments.

Active research areas include material sciences (semiconductors, nanomaterials, advanced polymers used in aerospace and automotive applications), life sciences (diagnostics, advanced DNA analysis, medical devices and new research tools), advanced manufacturing (lighting and display products, renewable energy production) and software platforms.

#### About STAR Park

STAR Park is a collaborative effort of Texas State University and research partners serving as a catalyst for continued public/private development of new or improved technologies. Anchored by the STAR One technology business incubator, the 58-acre STAR Park is currently home to five new and emerging technology companies, student startup teams, an advanced polymers and nanomaterials center and Texas State's Small Business Development Center.

• Submitted by Texas State University

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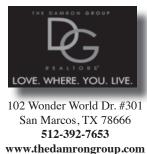
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# The Damron Group REALTORS® welcomes **Natalie Butler-Megerson** to our Team!





Natalie has lived here all of her life and her family goes back 6 generations in San Marcos. She is a graduate of San Marcos Academy and has a B.A. in Mass Communication/Advertising from Texas State University. She has a comprehensive background in sales and management. Much of her career was spent as a manager in the student housing industry in the San Marcos area where she managed large complexes and traveled to other properties all over the country to assist them in leasing and management. Most recently she has worked at Chuck Nash in San Marcos as Accessories Manager, Customer Relations and was later promoted to Finance.

During her spare time, she enjoys gardening, working on projects at her home and spending time with her husband, Steve. She is an animal lover and has been known to take in strays. She currently has four dogs and three cats that are also part of her family.

Natalie has extensive knowledge of the San Marcos area. She can help you buy/sell your home or investment property. If you are looking for an agent who is confident, customer focused and energetic please give Natalie a call at **512-557-5549**.