

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Breakthrough Central Texas Announces Appointment of New Board of Trustees Chair
Christina Corona brings STEM background, comes full circle with first-hand knowledge of first-generation college graduate journey

AUSTIN, TX – Breakthrough Central Texas, Austin’s leading college access and success nonprofit, today announces Christina Corona as Chair of the organization’s Board of Trustees. A transformational leader with more than three decades of experience in engineering and operations, spanning semiconductor manufacturing, hardware solutions, and global R&D, Corona serves as Head of Operational Excellence and Operations Chief of Staff at Emerson Test & Measurement. For more than 28 years, she has paved the way for female engineers, working in the challenging and constantly evolving fields of New Product Introduction, Reliability, Quality, Assembly & Test of semiconductors, Hardware/Board solutions, and Operations Excellence within R&D and Manufacturing. She was recognized in 2024 by *Austin Business Journal* as a Women in Business finalist.



A native Austinite and fierce advocate for aspiring first-generation college graduates like herself, Corona became involved with Breakthrough Central Texas in 2014. Her involvement with the Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce connected her directly to local communities impacted by the organization, and the organization’s mission of helping students realize postsecondary success so deeply resonated that Christina quickly became a champion for Breakthrough students.

Corona is actively changing the narrative for first-generation students with interest in STEM fields. She has leveraged her long history developing professional talent and supporting under-served populations to diversify Austin’s education landscape. Now championing Breakthrough Central Texas’ \$30 million [Pathways to](#)

[Opportunity campaign](#), Corona helps to break down barriers and model the opportunities that exist for first-generation students in STEM.

As a young student, Corona chose to pursue her passion and sought resources to help achieve her goals. Minority focused STEM programs, great teachers and a supportive family fueled her to become the first person in her family to graduate college, earning a B.S. in Mathematics from St. Edward's University and an MBA from UT Austin's McCombs School of Business. Corona’s focus has been on leading global engineering organizations and improving business processes supporting R&D and New Technology/Product Introductions.

Corona's commitment to giving back to first-generation students in Austin includes service through the following outlets:

- Austin Community Foundation
 - Chair Hispanic Impact Fund Steering Committee
 - Hispanic Impact Fund Grants Chair/Committee
- Member of Latinas L500, a private, invitation-only network of Latina leaders with the goal of empowering and elevating more Latinas into executive roles.
- The New Philanthropists
 - Mentor
- Emerson T&M Latino ERG
 - Executive Sponsor Somos
 - Actively mentors professionals and students within Emerson and tech community as well Women's and Latino network

A dedicated, compassionate donor and leader at Breakthrough Central Texas, Corona has made a tangible impact on the organization's growth, becoming a partner in the radical, long-term commitment to support students to and through college, unlocking the power of education and a lifetime of opportunity. For more information about Breakthrough Central Texas and the organization's vision for the future of equitable education, visit Breakthroughctx.org.

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ABOUT BREAKTHROUGH CENTRAL TEXAS

Breakthrough Central Texas is the leading college access and success nonprofit in Central Texas. For nearly 25 years, we have partnered with thousands of middle and high school students who aspire to be the first in their family to graduate with a degree or certificate. We make a radical, long-term commitment to students, to and through college, unlocking the power of education and a lifetime of opportunity. We support the whole student with personalized services, work closely with community partners, campuses, and employers, and advocate for our students with lawmakers. Breakthrough students attend 60+ public schools and persist at nearly 100 colleges and universities. The result is that 55% of Breakthrough students graduate from college, compared to 17% of low-income students in our region. Our work has resulted in more than 550 postsecondary graduates, with 4,000 on their way, positively impacting families for generations, our region's educational equity, and the Central Texas economy. Join the conversation at [@BreakthroughCTX](https://www.instagram.com/BreakthroughCTX), Instagram [@BreakthroughCTX](https://www.instagram.com/BreakthroughCTX) and at [Facebook.com/BreakthroughCTX](https://www.facebook.com/BreakthroughCTX). To learn more, visit www.breakthroughctx.org.

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