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September 2012: You Are UHCL

On Oct. 6, the University of Houston-Clear Lake **Alumni Celebration** takes place at Space Center Houston to recognize and honor alumni and professors with one of several awards to be presented. These honorees are the few among many selected by the Alumni Association as exemplary and distinguished. They represent the work, dedication and accomplishments included in the UHCL family.

The Alumni Association began the awards decades ago with the **Distinguished Alumni Award**, and over time has added new ones to honor **early achievement, leadership and service**, and **outstanding professors**. The portraits of the distinguished alumni hang in Atrium I of the Bayou Building and their names are engraved on a granite monolith in Alumni Plaza. The names of the other honorees are also displayed in the atrium. As we look forward to this year's event, perhaps it is a good time to look back to an early honoree...one of the first to be so recognized.

One of the earliest honorees was Kippy Caraway. She earned her degrees in history at UHCL, and her life has been one of work, dedication and energy. She now serves as deputy chief of staff, Intergovernmental Relations, for the City of Houston Mayor's Office. It is no wonder that she and the university complement each other so well. Even though the activities that attracted her early in life were not available at UHCL as fields of study — tennis, piano and drama, in particular — she used the work ethic and drive from those areas and grew where she was planted in the community. While the university takes pride in being community-minded and partnership-oriented, the same could be said of Kippy.



Influenced by her parents and their high level of service, she carried the same commitment to community to the Clear Lake area. Having built her sense of team and commitment through practice in her extracurricular interests, she sees her role as one of bringing together teams to accomplish more than they thought possible. The benefit of her efforts can be seen in the political realm, education and many other areas. She sees the world like music, combining all the elements for a masterpiece.

UHCL now has approximately 54,000 alumni, each with their own story of commitment, dedication, success; each for whom the choice was clear in enhancing their life through education—UHCL. **Join us** in recognizing the stories of all as we honor the few at the Alumni Celebration.



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We love stories. Human stories. Funny stories and dramatic ones.
Would you like to share *your* UHCL story? We would love to listen.