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Press Release

GOVERNOR RICK PERRY TO HOST UNCF'S 2nd ANNUAL NORTH TEXAS GOVERNOR'S LUNCHEON

DALLAS, TX. (August 11, 2008) – UNCF—the United Negro College Fund—the nation's oldest and most successful minority higher education assistance organization, today announced that Texas Governor Rick Perry will host and serve as the keynote speaker for its second annual *North Texas Governor's Luncheon* on Friday, Sept. 5, 2008, from noon until 1:00 pm at the Hyatt Regency Hotel at DFW Airport. Proceeds from the luncheon will support UNCF's schools in Texas and its mission of increasing minority degree attainment by providing support to its member institutions and reducing financial barriers to college.

"Because a college education can open so many doors, UNCF works to ensure our future leaders have the opportunity to get the college degrees they need and deserve," said Diane Stephenson, UNCF's area development director. "The level of commitment in our community and this investment in future scientists, teachers, business owners, lawyers and doctors helps prepare young students to compete in the ever changing global economy".

"As governor, I strive each and every day to build a Texas that welcomes and empowers students to dream, dare and achieve" said Governor Perry. "UNCF plays an important role in fulfilling that mission, and I am pleased to be a part of their efforts."

Last year, the North Texas Governor's Luncheon raised almost \$200,000 to support students who attend UNCF's member colleges and universities. The North Texas Governor's Luncheon supports more than 4500 Texans who attend UNCF's member institutions.

Texas is home to five UNCF schools: Paul Quinn College in Dallas; Texas College in Tyler; Jarvis Christian College in Hawkins; Wiley College in Marshall and Huston-Tillotson University in Austin.

Serving as Co-Chairs are State Representative Marc Veasey (D) and his wife Tonya Veasey, President Open Channels Group. Honorary chairs for the luncheon are Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert and his wife Laura Leppert. UNCF President and CEO Michael L. Lomax, Ph.D., and State Senator Royce West (D) will deliver remarks. Fort Worth Mayor Pro-Tem Kathleen Hicks and Garland Mayor Ronald Jones will be among the many honored guests in attendance.

AT&T is the regional sponsor. Additional luncheon sponsors include Silver sponsors: Chesapeake Energy, Dallas Area Rapid Transit, Glazer's Distributors, Kroger Food Stores, Nationwide Insurance and The Warrior Group and Bronze sponsors Aetna, Cash America International, Energy Future Holdings, Exxon Mobil, and Lockheed Martin.

Sponsorships and tables are still available. For more information please, call the UNCF Dallas Area Office at (972) 234-1007 or visit www.unconf.org/dallas.

(More)

About UNCF

UNCF—the United Negro College Fund—is the nation’s oldest and most successful minority education assistance organization. Its mission is to increase minority degree attainment by providing financial support to its 39 member institutions, reducing financial barriers to college and serving as a national advocate for minority education. UNCF institutions and other historically black colleges and universities are highly effective, awarding 18 percent of African American baccalaureate degrees. UNCF administers more than 400 programs, including scholarship, internship and fellowship, mentoring, summer enrichment, and curriculum and faculty development programs. Today, UNCF supports more than 60,000 students at over 900 colleges and universities across the country. In 2007 UNCF awarded 8,500 scholarships worth more than \$80 million. UNCF’s recently redesigned logo and brand identity feature UNCF’s torch of leadership in education and its widely recognized motto, “A mind is a terrible thing to waste.”[®] Learn more at www.UNCF.org.

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