

Role Models

By Beverly Denver

For the past four years, Houston Woman Magazine has sponsored the Nominate HER Awards Program to honor excellent role models. Identifying the annual award recipients and introducing them to you each year is a project for which we are especially proud.

We start the process of finding the yearly honorees by asking our readers to nominate individuals worthy of praise and admiration. Once the nominations come in, the official forms are passed on to a committee composed of Houston Woman subscribers and staff to make the final selections. A few weeks later, those chosen are honored at the annual Nominate HER Awards Luncheon and featured here in our May/June issue.

Each year, the number of nomination forms filled out and turned in to us increases. (We love that!) Via those forms, we learn about so many truly amazing women doing truly amazing things.

We learn about women providing compassionate care and strong support for their friends and family.

We learn about women founding non-profit organizations to assist those with special needs.

We learn about women taking on major projects as volunteers, simply to make our community better.

We learn about women starting and growing small businesses to support their families and those of their employees.

We learn about women sharing their knowledge and expertise with young people seeking mentors.

We learn about women who overcame major challenges in their lives and, somehow, have not only survived but thrived!

As you might expect, selecting the Nominate HER Award recipients from among so many incredible candidates is always difficult. This year was no exception!

Thus, we are especially delighted to introduce you to the 2010 Nominate HER Award honorees — Dianah Dulany, Hashmat Effendi, Elaine Johnson, Kay King, Victoria Noble, Barbara Schlattman and Crystal Washington.

We invite you to turn to pages 17-24 of the current issue and learn about this year's Nominate HER Award Luncheon, these special women and the incredible things they do. No doubt, you will be impressed by the women and inspired by their stories. You will view them as we do, as truly excellent role models — worthy of recognition and festive celebration!