



****MEDIA ADVISORY****

TACO BELL FOUNDATION AND BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF THE AUSTIN AREA TEAM UP TO CELEBRATE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF LOCAL TEENS

Event kicks off the partnership focused inspiring teens to stay the course to graduation

What: Today, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Austin Area will host an event in honor of local high schoolers who will graduate in the Class of 2015. The celebration was made possible through a grant from the Taco Bell Foundation. Two Lanier H.S. students will be presented with \$5,000 college scholarships. The event will also be attended by Burnet M.S. students who completed the “Graduate for MAS” program this spring. Ann Teich, Austin ISD Board Trustee for District 3 and former Lanier H.S. student will give a keynote speech.

What is the Graduate for Mas (g4m) program?

BGCA has partnered with Taco Bell for over 20 years. The goal of the Graduate for Mas initiatives is for participating Clubs to provide tools and resources to teens that promote every teen member graduating on time, college or career ready while tracking their progress towards graduation and life goals, The Graduate for Mas initiative challenges America’s teens to make a personal pledge to graduation high school. In return for their commitment teens will receive resources and rewards to keep them on track and diploma bound.

When: **Tuesday, May 26, 2015 – 5:00 p.m.**

Interview Opps: Mark Kiester, CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Austin Area

Ann Teich, Austin ISD Board Trustee for District 3 – Keynote Speaker and former Lanier H.S. student

Brooke Wood, Marketing Manager, Tacala, Inc.

Sarah Shedd, 12th Grader at Lanier H.S.

Melanie Webster, 11th Grader at Lanier H.S. and Youth of the Year of Lanier H.S.

Where: Lanier High School – 1201 Payton Gin Road – Austin, TX 78758

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About Boys & Girls Clubs of the Austin Area

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Austin Area is Austin’s leading youth development agency, serving nearly 12,000 kids each year in Travis County via 23 clubs. The club’s formula for impact addresses youth development in three crucial areas: academic success, character and leadership, and healthy lifestyles.

Learn more at bgcaustin.org. Follow us [@bgcaustin](https://twitter.com/bgcaustin) or at facebook.com/bgcaustin.

About Taco Bell Foundation

Taco Bell Foundation Inc; also known as Taco Bell Foundation for Teens, is a not-for-profit 501c(3) public benefit corporation committed to inspiring and enabling America’s teens to graduate from high school and achieve más through its programs, partnerships, and direct financial assistance. Since 1992, the Foundation has served over 3 million teens in 6,000 communities across the country where Taco Bell restaurants have a presence. Through the support of customers, franchisees, employees and vendor-partners over the last 20 years, the Foundation has awarded more than \$75 million in grants and scholarships focused on education and career readiness. For more information on the Foundation and its commitment to teens – Taco Bell team members, friends and future leaders – visit <http://www.tacobellforteens.org> or graduateformas.org

About Taco Bell Corp.

Taco Bell Corp; a subsidiary of Yum! Brands, Inc; (NYSE: YUM), is the nation’s leading Mexican-inspired quick service restaurant. Taco Bell serves made to order and customizable tacos, burritos, and specialties such as the exclusive Doritos Locos Tacos, gourmet-inspired Cantina Bell Menu and lower calorie Fresco Menu. The company encourages customers to “Live Más,” both through its food and in ways such as its Feed the Beat music program and its nonprofit organization, the Taco Bell Foundation for Teens. Taco Bell and its more than 350 franchise organizations have nearly 6,000 restaurants across the United States that proudly serve more than 36 million customers every week.