

The PHI BETA KAPPA *Society*



March 2, 2018

Dr. Mark Tomforde
Director, CHAMP
University of Houston
Houston, TX 77204-3008

Dear Dr. Tomforde:

As Secretary and CEO of The Phi Beta Kappa Society, it is my pleasure to inform you that Phi Beta Kappa would like to recognize CHAMP with a \$5,000 cash prize at an evening reception taking place at the Midtown Arts and Theater Center Houston on Tuesday, April 17 from 6:00 p.m. to 8: p.m. The reception is part of our efforts to celebrate the City of Houston as an *Arts & Sciences City of Distinction*.

Founded in 1776, Phi Beta Kappa is the nation's most prestigious academic honor society and recently established a chapter at the University of Houston. Our mission is to champion education in the liberal arts and sciences, foster freedom of thought, and recognize academic excellence. Phi Beta Kappa firmly believes that the liberal arts and sciences help to make communities key places to live, work, and play. With higher education facing a crossroads today, we think it is important to make sure more people can access the arts and sciences, and come to know their value, too.

We are coming to Houston to recognize four local organizations for innovative efforts to engage broad and diverse audiences with the arts, humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, or mathematics. Deborah McNulty, Director of the Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs, will officially accept the designation on behalf of the City of Houston. At the reception, we will award four \$5000 prizes and shine a spotlight on the good work done by each organization.

Many people don't realize that mathematics is indeed a necessary part of a well-rounded liberal arts and sciences education. Our selection committee has chosen CHAMP for this recognition because we are deeply impressed with your efforts to provide equitable access to math enrichment programs to underserved communities surrounding the University of Houston. In the process, you provide a transformational experience that cultivates lifelong learning: the opportunity to do challenging mathematics in an environment of collaborative exploration.

We hope that you will accept this well-deserved recognition. If you have any questions or require additional information before accepting, please contact Anne Tria Wise at 202-745-3230 or awise@pbk.org

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Frederick M. Lawrence'.

Frederick M. Lawrence
Secretary and CEO