



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**WORLD-RENOWNED KRISTIN CHENOWETH TO HEADLINE BARBARA BUSH HOUSTON LITERACY FOUNDATION'S EIGHTH ANNUAL POWER OF LITERACY LUNCHEON**

*Emmy® and Tony® Award-Winning Actress, Singer, and New York Times Bestselling Author to Speak at Signature Event on Friday, October 20*

**HOUSTON** – The Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation's Ladies for Literacy Guild is pleased to announce that Emmy® and Tony® Award-Winning Actress, Singer, and *New York Times* Bestselling Author, **Kristin Chenoweth**, will serve as the featured speaker at the eighth annual Power of Literacy Luncheon. Chaired by Maureen Higdon, the signature event will take place Friday, October 20 at The Post Oak Hotel at Uptown Houston. Proceeds from the event advance former First Lady Barbara Bush's literacy legacy and support childhood literacy programs across our city.

Kristin's career spans film, television, voiceover, and stage. She received an Emmy® Award for her role in *Pushing Daisies*, won a Tony® Award for *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, and received a Tony® Award nomination for her original role of Glinda the Good Witch in *Wicked*. Kristin has released multiple albums, including *The Art of Elegance* and *For the Girls*, and has performed to sold-out audiences across the world. Notable TV credits include *Schmigadoon!*, *West Wing*, *Descendants*, and her Emmy®-award nominated role on *Glee*. Movie appearances include *Holidate*, *Deck the Halls*, *RV*, and *Four Christmases*.

Kristin is the author of three bestselling books, including children's book *What Will I Do with My Love Today?* and her 2010 memoir *A Little Bit Wicked*. Her most recent book, *I'm No Philosopher, But I've Got Thoughts*, released in January 2023, is an inspiring high-design, colorful book featuring philosophical-ish musings on connection, creativity, loss, love, faith, and closure.

"Whether a book, a musical score, or a script, reading has played an integral role in my life as a child and an adult," said Kristin Chenoweth. "I am honored to serve as the featured speaker at this year's Power of Literacy Luncheon in Houston to help further the mission of the Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation and help more children and adults learn how to read."

"We are excited that Kristin Chenoweth will join us for this year's Power of Literacy Luncheon as we shine the light on her books and career," said Julie Baker Finck, Ph.D., President & CEO of the Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation. "Her life's journey, incredible talent, and big personality will undoubtedly provide guests with an unforgettable experience."

The Ladies for Literacy Guild has raised nearly \$3 million through the Power of Literacy Luncheon which has benefited tens of thousands of children and families over the years.

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Tickets and table sponsorships for the event are available for purchase on the Foundation's website at <https://www.bushhoustonliteracy.org/luncheon>. For more information on the Power of Literacy Luncheon, call 346-212-2310 or email [events@bushhoustonliteracy.org](mailto:events@bushhoustonliteracy.org).

Phillips 66 will serve as Title Sponsor of the Power of Literacy Luncheon.

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**About the Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation**

The Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation is a charitable organization formed by Neil and Maria Bush to carry forth First Lady Barbara Bush's legacy in the literacy cause and to focus deeply on breaking the intergenerational cycle of low literacy in the Bush family's hometown. Founded on Mrs. Bush's belief, "If you help a person to read, then their opportunities in life will be endless," the Barbara Bush Foundation's mission is to improve lives through the power of literacy. Over the past 10 years, the Foundation has spearheaded innovative literacy programs and expanded access to high-quality services and resources that empower children, families, and adults with the support they need to learn how to read, write, and comprehend. For more information, visit [www.barbarabushhouston.org](http://www.barbarabushhouston.org) or follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/bushhoustonliteracy](https://www.facebook.com/bushhoustonliteracy) on Twitter [@bushhoustonlit](https://twitter.com/bushhoustonlit) and on Instagram [@bushhoustonlit](https://www.instagram.com/bushhoustonlit).