



## Terrylin Gregory Neale Class of 1958

Terrylin Gregory Neale is a native Houstonian, and graduate of Lamar in 1958. Two sisters, Karen and LaNeil, also graduated from Lamar in 1962 and 1963. Lamar was great for building lifelong friendships and learning leadership skills. Following family tradition, Terrylin graduated from Baylor University with a B.B.A. degree, and involvement in sorority life (president) and student government (Secretary of the Student Body).

Next came a year in Washington D.C. working for a Congressman, then returning to Houston to become an account executive with a major advertising agency. Then, marriage and two children, Erin and Lamar (yes, that was his name!)

In the following years, Terrylin became active with Houston Grand Opera (as a volunteer, not a singer!), creating a Board of Trustees for Texas Opera Theater, the regional touring company, and then being elected as Chair of the Board of Houston Grand Opera. Involvement continues all the way to today, by continuing to serve on the HGO board and also the HGO Endowment Board. When our classmate, Mark White, became Governor, he appointed Terrylin to the Texas Commission on the Arts board.

In 1984, Terrylin became Executive Director of the Wortham Theatre Foundation, during the time that \$70 million was raised for construction and opening of the Wortham Theatre in downtown Houston. Since 1987, Terrylin has been president of the University of Houston Foundation, which is a separate non-profit organization that manages endowments on behalf of the several UH universities. In addition, consulting services were provided to multiple non-profit organizations for their board development and their fundraising.

In addition, Terrylin has served on the Board of Hermann Park Conservancy for over 20 years, with the great highlight of being named as the Honoree of Evening in the Park in 2019. This spring, Houston Grand Opera honored her by naming the 5<sup>th</sup> floor Wortham offices the "Terrylin Neale Philanthropy Suite".

It's been such a full and active life, for which I'm extremely grateful.