

Of course, our public libraries and higher education institutions also strongly support education and enrichment of our community through access to information and a myriad of public programs.

Yet other organizations conduct programs that directly support our children's and community's learning and achievement, life-long learning, as well as professional development for educators. In our county, they include:

*Capital Idea: Capital IDEA lifts working families out of poverty by sponsoring educational services that lead to life-long financial independence. Its mission is to connect committed yet underemployed participants to leading Central Texas employers in need of highly skilled employees. www.capitalidea.org.

*Communities in Schools (Central Texas): This organization has some programs in Georgetown High School, in particular, its XY Zone for boys. www.cisaustin.org.

*Community Montessori School: 25 years in Georgetown providing a high-quality Montessori environment for children 18 mos through 6th grade. AMI and AMITOT. www.community-montessori.org.

*Duck University: in Taylor, a program for more than 500 kindergarten through 8th grade students. They go to 'Duck University' for after school programs. These are enrichment activities in a wide range of interests and for individualized help with homework and core curriculum areas. TAKS scores by 8th graders improved by 80% in math and science.

*Literacy Council of Williamson County: Founded in 1985 in Round Rock, the Literacy Council provides programs for youth and adults. They conduct ESL classes, GED preparation, and basic literacy classes. Most of their programs are free, and are conducted at six sites throughout the county. <http://www.main.org/lcwc/literacy.htm>

*Partners in Education (with Georgetown ISD): tutoring, mentoring, and other programs to help students learn and succeed. www.georgetownpie.org

*Senior University: Senior University offers programs that provide lifelong learning to people age 50 and over in the greater Georgetown area. The programs involve neither examinations nor academic credit, but are designed for enjoyment, intellectual stimulation, and active discussion of important issues of the day.

As you can determine, there are many strong organizations that support education, but there are also some gaps in the breadth and depth of organizations that support our youth and community--especially in the area of early childhood education. Contact us if you're thinking about a way to make a difference, either by volunteering, advocating, or giving, in the area of education for children, youth, and adults.

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### 3. Get ready for October: Georgetown Art Works brings you National Arts Month!

Plan ahead for a month of arts events and activities courtesy of Georgetown Art Works, one of the area's newest and most dynamic organizations.

The Fall Art Hop is a juried art show--more than 80 artists from the region, the state, and nationwide will participate--between October 3 and 31 in Georgetown's historic district. On October 3, Georgetown Art Works will launch the Fall Art Hop with an opening reception open to the public, and a 'hop' from venue to venue. Original works in painting, collage and photography will be on view in four locations downtown. Jurors are Jerry Seagle and Susan Kirchman.

October 11, in the morning, at Georgetown Public Library, there will be a family and fun event--called 'Hopscotch'--artmaking for children, tours of the exhibition (one by this newsletter's author), and refreshments for all. Come join the GAWKers (Georgetown Art Works Kids!) for painting and creative fun. Free!

[www.georgetownartworks.org](http://www.georgetownartworks.org)

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4. Community Calendar and Williamson County Nonprofits Listserv--reprise from last month

We've been asked by many to do an online community calendar to track Williamson County nonprofit events. We are glad to report that it's up and going.

You can find the calendar at our website: www.chisholm-trail.org. Viewing it as 'agenda' is the best.

Or, if your calendar is .ics friendly, you may subscribe to the calendar feed, and it will update in the background for you.
<http://www.google.com/calendar/ical/friends%40chisholm-trail.org/public/basic.ics>

If you'd like to add something to the calendar, send a note to us with 'community calendar item' in the subject line!

Also, there is a new Williamson County Nonprofits Listserv that is designed to bring all of the area's nonprofits together in one conversational space. Feel free to let your friends and colleagues know about it by passing this email along. You can sign up for the listserv through our website (under the 'For Nonprofits' tab).

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5. Thought for the Moment...

Only the educated are free.

Epictetus (55 AD - 135 AD), Discourses

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6. Save the Date!

Future Trails 2008, our annual recognition dinner, will be November 18, 2008, with a keynote by Tracy Gary, author of Inspired Philanthropy. This year's *Future Trails* awards will highlight the important work of the Caring Place as well as celebrate the leadership of Gary Nelon.

Keep tuned for more details soon! Let us know if you'd like to learn more. Sponsorship opportunities are still available! You may reserve your ticket by calling our office, emailing us, or book online at www.chisholm-trail.org.

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In closing...

Please contact us with questions, by phone at 512.863.2484, or email [friends@chisholm-trail.org](mailto:friends@chisholm-trail.org). Thank you!

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