

NEWS



The Houston Bar Association (713) 759-1133

1111 Bagby, FLB 200, Houston, Texas 77002 Fax (713) 759-1710 www.hba.org

Contact: Tara Shockley, (713)759-1133

HBA Recognized by State Bar of Texas for Outstanding Programs

(Houston – June 17, 2016) The Houston Bar Association (HBA) was recognized by the State Bar of Texas with the **Award of Merit** for outstanding overall programming and projects by a bar association. Laura Gibson, 2015-2016 HBA president, accepted the award June 16th at the State Bar's Annual Meeting in Fort Worth.

The HBA also received the **Outstanding Partnership Award** for its Juvenile Records Sealing Project, which pairs lawyers with young adults to help them get juvenile criminal records sealed at no cost, clearing paths to employment, housing and college. The HBA also received a **Star of Achievement Award** for its Teach Texas Program, which sends attorneys and judges into 7th grade classrooms to teach students about the development of the state's court system and how it fits into the larger picture of Texas history.

The HBA's magazine, *The Houston Lawyer*, was named **Best Overall Newsletter**. The publication also earned awards for **Feature/Human Interest Story** for an article by Ray Pannetton on *Pocket Full of Soul*, attorney Todd Slobin's documentary on the harmonica; and **Series of Articles – Feature/General Interest**, for three articles from the January-February issue on law and technology.

The 11,300-member Houston Bar Association won the awards in the category of bar associations with more than 5,000 members.

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The Houston Bar Association is an 11,300-member nonprofit professional organization for attorneys. The HBA provides professional development, education, and service programs for the legal profession and the community.