



GREATER HOUSTON PRESERVATION ALLIANCE
712 MAIN STREET, SUITE 110 • HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002-3207 • 713 216-5000

December 11, 1996

Ms. Karen McMullen
Office of the Mayor
City of Houston
P. O. Box 1562
Houston, Texas 77251

Dear Karen:

I want to bring to Mayor Lanier's attention that Mrs. Willie Lee Gay's term on the Texas Historical Commission expires in February 1997. A letter from Mayor Lanier to Governor Bush endorsing Mrs. Gay for appointment to a second term to the Texas Historical Commission would be appreciated.

Mrs. Gay, a Houstonian, was the first black appointed to the Texas Historical Commission. She was nominated by Senator Rodney Ellis, one of her former students. Mrs. Gay has been very active in obtaining Texas Landmarks that recognize African-American heritage in the Houston area. She has donated much of her research including manuscripts and photographs to begin an African-American collection at the Houston Metropolitan Research Center at the Houston Public Library. Mrs. Gay, a retired HISD Texas history teacher, has won numerous awards including being named one of the 150 black Texas women in Ruthe Winegarten's book and receiving the Black History Award by the Black History committee of the Houston Division of the FBI.

Mrs. Gay's professionalism, dedication to her mission and love of sharing her knowledge endears her to all that come in contact with her. She has given of her time and money generously during her past six years on the Commission. She wants to complete the projects she currently has in progress with the Commission. Her reappointment will give additional recognition to Houston and African-American heritage.

I am enclosing some articles and information on Mrs. Gay. Please call me if you need additional information. Mrs. Gay resides at 3908 Carlson Lane and her phone number is (713)734-0166. She is an active member of the Board of Directors of the Greater Houston Preservation Alliance and also serves on the Harris County Historical Commission.

Thank you for bringing this before Mayor Lanier.



GREATER HOUSTON PRESERVATION ALLIANCE

1111 MAIN STREET, SUITE 110 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002-2072 TEL: 713-865-1111

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season.

Sincerely,

Patricia

Patricia S. Ekstrum
Executive Director

Enclosures

I want to bring to Mayor Laffin's attention that Mrs. Mary Kay Gay, a member of the Greater Houston Preservation Alliance, has been appointed to a national board in the field of historic preservation. Mrs. Gay is a Houstonian, was the first Mrs. Gay appointed to the Texas Historical Commission. She was appointed by Nelson Rockefeller, Vice President of the United States. Mrs. Gay has been very active in obtaining Texas Landmarks that were on the National Register of Historic Places. She has donated much of her research including manuscripts and photographs to be in the collection of the Houston Metropolitan Research Center at the Houston Public Library. Mrs. Gay, a retired HSPD Texas History teacher, has also participated in the 1997 Texas State Fair of the 150th Anniversary of Texas, which is being held in Houston, Texas, and is being sponsored by the Texas State Historical Association of the University of Texas.

Mrs. Gay is in contact with the Greater Houston Preservation Alliance and is very active in the field of historic preservation. She has been very active in obtaining Texas Landmarks that were on the National Register of Historic Places. She has donated much of her research including manuscripts and photographs to be in the collection of the Houston Metropolitan Research Center at the Houston Public Library. Mrs. Gay, a retired HSPD Texas History teacher, has also participated in the 1997 Texas State Fair of the 150th Anniversary of Texas, which is being held in Houston, Texas, and is being sponsored by the Texas State Historical Association of the University of Texas.

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Thank you for the information on the Greater Houston Preservation Alliance.