

# KIMBERLIE DYKEMAN

## **January 2008: Non-profit College Forward Invites Kimberlie Dykeman to Speak at January Program Launch at St. Edward's University**

College Forward, Texas's premier non-profit college access program has invited Kimberlie Dykeman as a featured panelist for the official launch of its exciting new career program, "Skills, Thrills, and Paying Your Bills: Career Skills Workshop". Upon meeting with Kimberlie to discuss opportunities for involvement, Associate Director and Development Manager Emily Steinberg, expressed her immediate interest in having Kimberlie create a special relationship with the students by speaking about how a college education is truly the root to a creative career path.

How Dykeman was introduced to College Forward is an interesting little story in and of itself. Friend volunteers invited her to attend a local event called Schoolhouse Rock Sing-a-long series. Amidst the flashback of catchy tunes like "Conjunction Junction", Dykeman met College Forward's Executive Director and Co-Founder Lisa Fielder and, having come from a long line of educators... was hooked right away! In addition to serving as a recurring volunteer speaker, Dykeman plans to license her motivational writing excerpts to further inspire their college-bound teens to stay in school and pursue their dreams. Based on her upcoming book, *Pure Soapbox*, Dykeman's trademark soapboxes will be integrated into College Forward's current coaching methodology -enhancing newsletters, emails, and mobile communications.

### About College Forward:

College Forward is Austin, Texas's premier non-profit college access program. College Forward provides free college preparatory and retention services to motivated, economically-disadvantaged students, in order to facilitate their transition to college and make the process exciting and rewarding. The organization believes that access to higher education is the right of every young Texan, and accomplishes this by providing orientation to the college experience, preparation for college entrance examinations, assistance with college applications, assistance securing financial aid, and college retention support. [www.collegeforward.org](http://www.collegeforward.org)

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