

SAN MARCOS AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

San Marcos Area Chamber and GSMP present State of Workforce & Education Summit *Driving Economic Growth Through Synergy*

The San Marcos Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the Greater San Marcos Partnership is excited to announce the 2024 ***State of Workforce & Education Summit***, set to take place on Thursday, Sept. 26, at the San Marcos Conference Center at Embassy Suites.

This year's summit will delve into the critical intersection of workforce development and education, serving as a platform to explore innovative strategies and foster collaborations that drive economic growth in the region. Attendees will have the opportunity to gain valuable insights into the impact of new state legislature laws on public schools and universities, as well as their implications for the future workforce.

Key features of the summit include:

- **Presentations from state and regional leaders** in education and workforce development, providing the latest updates and news.
- **Networking opportunities** with industry professionals, educators, policymakers, and business leaders, aimed at building connections and fostering collaboration on future projects.

The keynote speaker is Dr. Kelly Damphousse, President of Texas State University, who will discuss the state of the university and exciting recent announcements.

Following Dr. Damphousse's keynote address, the summit will feature two engaging panels:

1. **Innovations in Workforce Training:** Dr. Laura Marmolejo from Austin Community College and Mike Anderson from Texas State Technical College, who will share insights on innovative workforce training approaches.
2. **Superintendent's Panel on CTE Programs:** Featuring leaders from Hays ISD (Dr. Eric Wright), San Marcos CISD (Dr. Michael Cardona), Dripping Springs ISD (Holly Morris-Kuentz), and Wimberley ISD (Dr. Greg Bonewald), moderated by Mike Kamerlander.

"We are honored to host these speakers who will share their vision for a thriving workforce," said Page Michel, President/CEO of the San Marcos Area Chamber of Commerce. "It's always thrilling to hear Dr. Damphousse, because every day there are amazing new Texas State initiatives unveiled and record-breaking announcements!"

In addition, a special scholarship presentation will take place during the lunch session, where Justin Payne, San Marcos Chamber Chairman, will award a scholarship to a 2024 San Marcos CISD graduate who is now a Texas State University freshman.

State of Workforce & Education Summit sponsors confirmed to date include Texas State University, San Marcos CISD, La Cima, Frost, McCoy's, Bluebonnet Electric, TDS, Better Business Bureau, San Marcos Academy and Republic Services. Sponsorship opportunities are still available.

To register for the Workforce & Education Summit, please visit bit.ly/Workforce-Education-2024. Early registration is encouraged as space is limited.

For more information, visit SanMarcosTexas.com or call the San Marcos Area Chamber at 512-393-5900. For media inquiries, please contact Chamber Communications and PR Manager Joanne Ortega at joanne@sanmarcostexas.com.

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About the San Marcos Area Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber provides ADVOCACY and CONNECTIONS for businesses to THRIVE. The Chamber mission is to improve the economic prosperity and quality of life of its members through leadership, education and business advocacy. The Chamber's vision is to be the leading membership organization that collaborates with stakeholders to develop an environment where businesses thrive, leadership is encouraged, students excel, housing is ample and attainable, all members are active, and quality of life is a priority. More Chamber information is available at SanMarcosTexas.com.

Greater San Marcos Partnership

The Greater San Marcos Partnership is the economic development organization serving Hays and Caldwell Counties, fostering growth and economic prosperity in the region.