

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact Information:**

Carol C. Donovan  
Executive Director  
Peacemakers Incorporated  
Phone: 214-213-4575  
CarolCDonovanPC@aol.com

**DALLAS, TX--** On Tuesday, **March 8, 2011**, Peacemakers Incorporated will host a luncheon to honor former City Councilwoman **Anita Martinez**. The luncheon, which is scheduled at 11:30AM at Maggiano's Restaurant at NorthPark Mall, is the first of a series of quarterly luncheons hosted by Peacemakers to honor local patrons of peace.

Anita Martinez was the first Hispanic to be elected to the Dallas City Council. As a Councilwoman, Anita Martinez was devoted to providing city services to low-income areas of Dallas, which were often ignored. For her tireless work and successful development of these areas, her fellow council members named an Oak Cliff area city recreation center in her name. Councilwoman Martinez founded the Anita Martinez Ballet Folklorico so that children could experience the culture of their heritage. Additionally, she was instrumental in founding the Latin American Cultural Center in Dallas.

"Anita Martinez has been influential in bringing together people of different cultures and backgrounds to promote understanding and tolerance, two of the essential ingredients for peace," explains Peacemakers President Norma Matthews, "The purpose of these Peace Patron Luncheons is to recognize people in the DFW community who have demonstrated support and commitment to peace-related issues and to making our community a more peaceful place in which to live and develop the next generation."

Peacemakers is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization, founded by Dallas journalist and author Vivian Castleberry. Since its creation in 1987, the 501(c)(3) organization has hosted three women's international peace conferences in Dallas, involving more than 4,000 delegates (including 3 Nobel Peace Laureates) from 57 countries. In 2008, Peacemakers created the Castleberry Peace Institute, which was subsequently adopted by UNT. Between conferences, Peacemakers hosts peace education programs. Currently, Peacemakers is jointly sponsoring, with the MasterPEACE program of Today Marks the Beginning, a peace studies project at the DISD Irma Rangel Young Women's Leadership School, sponsored by the Embrey Family Foundation.

If you wish to attend the Peace Patron Luncheon on March 8, 2011, you can register online at [www.PeacemakersIncorporated.org](http://www.PeacemakersIncorporated.org). Limited seating is available. The cost is \$50 per person. Net proceeds will fund peace education programs in the DFW area. If you are not able to attend, but wish to honor Anita Martinez, you can make a donation to Peacemakers in her honor on the Peacemakers website. For additional information, please contact Peacemakers Administrator Melissa Smith at 972-239-2942 or via [PeacemakersInc@aol.com](mailto:PeacemakersInc@aol.com).