



## Katherine Lord

Executive Director  
Bayou Preservation Association

*"I always refer to my father's comments about leadership and try to follow them: Organize, deputize and supervise to have successful programs."*

**K**atherine Lord is the executive director of The Bayou Preservation Association, a citizen's group formed in 1966 in response to a plan by the Army Corps of Engineers to dredge and channelize Buffalo Bayou. Led by Memorial residents Terry Hershey and George Mitchell, the group enlisted the help of then-Congressman George H.W. Bush, and together they were able to halt the bayou channelization. BPA facilitates projects and public awareness about the region's streams and waterways in order to foster watershed management, conservation and recreation along these natural resources.

Lord's experience in the nonprofit sector, particularly in the area of environmentalism, has been very helpful in promoting Bayou Preservation Association. From 1994-2007, she worked for Trees For Houston, as executive director and director of development. Under her watch, Trees For Houston planted 164,000 trees and seedlings around the city and increased its budget five-fold.

Before Trees For Houston, Lord

was director of administration and development for the Park People. She has received numerous local, state and national awards for her environmental work, including Outstanding Professional of the Year in 2000 and 2008.

"We are thrilled to have Kathy on board to lead the Bayou Preservation Association," says J. Tynan (Ty) Kelly, BPA board president. "She brings the perfect mix of fundraising and administrative skills, leadership and environmental savvy to the table."

In her new position, Lord is responsible for overseeing finances, fund raising and marketing operations; interfacing with city, county and state agencies; working with other environmental groups; carrying out the long-range plan; speaking to community and school groups; and organizing and implementing BPA events, such as the annual water symposium and Trash Bash.

Lord graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a BA in French and was a participant in the Intercultural Study Program of the Western College for Women. She attended La

Varenne Cooking School in Paris, France and lived in Lyons, France as part of Experiment for International Living. She was a founding partner of The Traveling Skillet, a catering firm in Houston, which she operated for 17 years. She just published a cookbook, *Out of the Frying Pan*, based on the best recipes from the catering years. All proceeds benefit The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

She and her husband, Tom Forrester Lord, live in Old Braeswood. They enjoy their five grandchildren here in Houston and on Cape Cod where their family gathers for reunions.

Lord's community affiliations include the Houston Area Urban Forestry Council, Texas Urban Forestry Council, Houston Botanic Gardens, Kappa Alpha Theta Alumnae Association, The Junior League of Houston, Greater Houston Partnership, Advisory Board of Hermann Park Conservancy, Old Braeswood Parks Board, Mayor's Air Quality Committee, American Leadership Forum and Les Dames d'Escoffier.