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I whole-heartedly nominate Rhonda Kolm Calvert for the selfless award of Fiesta Commission "Order of the Cascarón". She brings awareness to our rich San Antonio Fiesta history while working to preserve it for our community and worldwide visitors. Not only does she serve as Immediate Past President of the Battle of Flowers Association, the founding organization of Fiesta, but she has also been a member since 2005 serving on its board of directors. The Battle of Flowers Association is over 600 members strong and teaches the history of the state of Texas and keeps alive the patriotic traditions of Texas through production of the oldest and largest Parade in the nation produced entirely by women. Rhonda served as Battle of Flowers Parade Chair in 2011-2012. In 2011 she served as the "Entries Chair" to the Parade and coordinated over 200 entries. Rhonda has graciously served as an Elected Fiesta Commissioner from 2014-2018 and was also the Presidential Appointee to the Executive Committee which she worked to completely revamp the Miss Fiesta Selection. In 2011-2012 Rhonda was a PMO Commissioner and in 2009-2011 she served as an Elected Commissioner. Rhonda now serves on the Executive Committee of the Fiesta Commission and currently holds the office of Treasurer.

The Battle of Flowers also produces the Band Festival during fiesta which involves over 35 participating High School Bands for a crowd of approximately 12,000. Rhonda was the Band Festival Chair and Chair-Elect in 2006-2008 and led a committee of over 50 women to successfully produce a musical show televised by Paragon Cable. She worked closely with over 10 high school band directors and was the liaison for the volunteers and the schools.

Rhonda is currently serving her fifth year on the Battle of Flowers® Parade Board. Her wealth of fiesta history is invaluable as we continue to produce a "bigger and better" Parade every year.

These are her other outstanding accomplishments in the Battle of Flowers® Association:

*2015-2016 Vice President of Finance-Budget and Insurance

*2012-2013 Vice President of Court Section of the Parade

*2008-2010 Vice President Fundraising-New Board position. Coordinated fundraising efforts for the organization including solicitation of monetary donations as well as Souvenir Program and Medal Sales.

Rhonda Calvert worked arduously in 2017-2018 trying to preserve the Parade Route that runs in front of our treasured Alamo. This

Parade Route, which was first started in 1891 by Battle of Flowers member, Mrs. Ellen Slayden, has been subject to change, hence altering the 128th year course since its debut. Rhonda honors Fiesta history, above all, and will tirelessly stay the course telling our "Fiesta story and history" to anyone who will listen. She deserves to be commended and added to the group of exceptional fiesta volunteers comprising the great organization of "The Order of the Casacrón."

Submitted by: Anna-Laura Block