



Texas Home School Coalition

Serving Texas Home Schoolers for Over 20 Years

July 7, 2009

Meet Featured Speaker Mary James!

[Mary James](#) has a heart for those parents who are new to home schooling or in the process of making the decision to homeschool. She lives in Bastrop, Texas, with her family. She has homeschooled her eight children since 1989. Mary is a co-founder of Smoothing the Way, a support group dedicated to informing and encouraging those who have decided to take on the exciting, yet sometimes daunting, task of educating their own children.



Created Just for You!

Thursday Convention Appetizer

New for 2009! The Convention will be kicked off with the FREE Thursday **Convention Appetizer**. Bring your friends for a taste of the weekend to come! They'll enjoy two FREE hours of shopping, followed by two FREE hours of Keynote workshops **OR** two FREE hours of Beginner's Track workshops!

Special Fellowships

Feel all alone in your home school battle? Come and be rejuvenated during our Special Fellowships on Saturday! You can network with others who are facing situations just like yours! You will be able to glean new ideas and tricks to make your home school even more successful!

Area Attractions

While in Houston, take advantage of many great attractions! Explore the Houston Zoo or the Battleship Texas State Historic Site! Check out a whole [list](#) of ideas to enhance your vacation experience!

[Get more convention details....](#)

Join THSC Today...then Relax!

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"What Type of Curriculum Did You Use With Your Children?"



Becky Preble

The November 2008 issue of the Texas Home School Coalition *REVIEW* included an article I had written, "What Motivates Your Child?" In this article I encouraged parents to pay attention to what their children noticed or indicated as needing to be done differently and to be alert to that about which their children commented and shared with them. I wrote that



Join the Texas Home School Coalition Association now and bask in the knowledge that, while you relax through the summer, the Association is vigilant in guarding your right to homeschool. THSC is the statewide organization for home schoolers! (Click on the graphic for more information about who we are and what we do.)

Once you join, you'll be eligible to take advantage of all the discounts and benefits we offer to members. THSC Association is continually adding not only more [member discounts](#) to its **Member Benefit Package** but also new avenues to make joining more manageable. [Check out](#) the ways it has gotten even easier to budget for your membership!

And don't forget about our **lifetime membership**! Then you could mark that task off your to-do list *forever!*

To join, you can call our office toll-free at (888) 200-4903 and speak to our friendly, helpful staff, or you can download, print, complete, and mail or fax your application and order form.

If you would like to join or renew your membership, you can still [do so online](#); however, the payment plan and Lifetime Membership options are not yet available at the Web store.

A restful summer is easy to achieve: Become a member of THSC!

[Join today!](#)

Home School Reduces High School Drop-Out Rates



In this article, Lynda Altman says that home schooling is one option to battle high school dropout rates. She cites statistics from a report on why students drop out. According to that report, the majority of the students surveyed said they dropped out because of "lack of interesting material."

Altman states that home schooling, whether it is through a virtual public school, public school at home, or schooling which is not affiliated with any official entity, is a viable alternative to public schooling because it offers one-on-one attention, fewer distractions, and flexible scheduling.

[Read the article....](#)

parents should be willing to step back and become active observers in their children's lives and give them time to reveal who they really are and upon what they most want to affect change. Once parents understand and respect their children's interests, concerns, and natural talents, they can provide opportunities that allow their children to participate in activities and learning experiences about which they can get excited.

In response to that article, I received the following e-mail:

*Hello, Ms. Preble,
I am a first-year home
school educator to my
eight-year-old son and
six-year-old daughter. I
worked in the public
school system, and my
husband works at a
community college.
Though we have
experience in public
and higher education, I
must admit that home
schooling is so much
more challenging than I
ever anticipated. I was
curious as to your early
years of home
education and the type
of curriculum you used
with your children.*

[Read the article....](#)

Mr. Picasso Head

Honor the Home Schoolers Serving Our Nation

The home schooling community has contributed its share of volunteers to our military, and the Texas Home School Coalition is proud to honor them. To do that, we have designed a page to highlight our home school heroes. We'd like to encourage you to take a minute to visit, read their stories, and say a prayer for them and their families.



[Read about our soldiers....](#)

A Merry Heart Doeth Good



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Do you have a funny, home-school-related anecdote you'd like to share? We'd love to publish it! Please [send it to THSC](#) and include your name and city.

Articles and advertisements in THSC's weekly E-Newsletter are included because of their potential interest to the home school community of Texas. Inclusion does not signify an endorsement. We encourage parents to practice due diligence before participating in any program. THSC is not responsible for any material or ads that may be encountered when clicking on links that take the reader away from the THSC website.

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Learning with Creative Play

[Remember the little ones!](#)

Frugal Hacks

[Get in touch with your cheap side!](#)

Right in Texas

[Governor Takes Heat for Standing Up for Families](#)

Summer Events

July 10-12, Arlington
[TSK Homeschooling CSI: Creative Special Interventions for Kids with Special Needs](#)

July 18-19, Euless
[HEART Annual Leadership Conference](#)

August 6-8, The Woodlands
[THSC State Convention & Family Conference](#)

[Find more events around the state....](#)

Want to Reach Texas Home Schoolers?

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