



# News Release

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## **CBS-HOUSTON INAUGURATION EVENTS TO FEATURE NATIONAL SPEAKERS, CECE WINANS**

HOUSTON, Texas – Inauguration events for Dr. William W. Blocker, fourth president of The College of Biblical Studies-Houston, are scheduled Oct. 18-19 and will feature national speakers and Grammy and Dove-award winning performer CeCe Winans.

The Inaugural Celebration Dinner, co-chaired by Rev. and Mrs. William Lawson and Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Hunt, is scheduled Oct. 18 at 7 p.m. at the Hilton Americas-Downtown. Host Committee members include Houstonians David and Bonnie Weekley, Terry and Doris Looper, Rev. Ivory L. and Mary Varner, David and Lynda Tauber, and Tom and Patti Owens; Norm and Anne Miller of Dallas; and numerous other supporters and friends of the college.

“The College of Biblical Studies educates a diverse population of students from across our city, and their biblical education equips them to impact churches and ministries in our region and around the world,” said longtime CBS supporter David Weekley. “Bill Blocker brings tremendous leadership to CBS, and Houston is fortunate that he chose to move to our great city to lead what I consider to be a ‘jewel in Christ’s crown.’ “

The dinner’s theme is “Celebration for Today, Promise for Tomorrow” and will feature nationally renowned speaker Dr. George W. Waddles Sr., pastor of Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Chicago, Ill., and a concert by CeCe Winans. Melanie Lawson, Houston’s own award-winning journalist at KTRK Channel 13, will emcee the evening’s events. Individual tickets begin at \$100, and tables of 10 begin at \$1,000.

The formal installation ceremony of President Blocker is scheduled Friday, Oct. 18, at 10 a.m. at Houston’s First Baptist Church. A reception will follow; the ceremony and reception are free and open to the public. Dr. Paul Nyquist, president of Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, will offer the keynote address. Musical entertainment from a variety of genres will be highlighted, including Houston’s Ambient Brass, well-known pianist Richard Alan Farmer and a specially selected, multi-ethnic Inaugural Chorus that will represent the diversity and talent of the CBS student body.

Academic leaders from CBS-Houston, from across the region and from around the nation will participate in the Inauguration Ceremony, including Dr. Robert Sloan of Houston Baptist University and representatives from the Association of Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), for which CBS is currently a Candidate for accreditation.

“The goal of these events is to glorify God, first and foremost, and to introduce CBS-Houston to more people in our region,” said Dr. Varner, chair of the Inauguration Steering Committee and chairman of the CBS-Houston Board of Trustees. “Dr. Bill Blocker is the right man to take the college to the next level.”

For more details or to register for these upcoming events, go to [www.cbs-houston.edu](http://www.cbs-houston.edu) and click on the Promise for Tomorrow link on the homepage.

CBS-Houston is a nationally accredited Bible college founded in 1979 that has provided biblical studies courses to more than 20,000 people. The school’s 500-plus students are diverse in age, ethnicity, gender and cultural perspectives. The average age of a CBS student is 38. CBS-Houston offers bachelor’s and associate’s degrees as well as certificate and non-certificate courses with evening, weekend and weekday classes. The college is located near Highway 59 and Hillcroft.

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