

# Office of Governor Brad Henry

State of Oklahoma

State Capitol – Oklahoma City OK 73105

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## First Lady Kim Henry

First Lady Kim Henry has devoted much of her life to education, from her 10 years teaching in the classroom to her and her husband raising three girls. Along the way, she has been active in parenting and educational issues, and has had her own extensive education in politics, having taken a leadership role in her husband's successful gubernatorial campaign.

Kim Henry spent most of her teaching career at her alma mater, Shawnee High School, where she taught Oklahoma History, economics, government and - her favorite subject - Advanced Placement American History. Her instructional skills and commitment to students led to her receiving the 1999-2000 Close Up Foundation's Linda Myers Chozen Award for Teaching Excellence in Civic Education. Only five other educators across the nation received the honor that year.

Kim attended the University of Oklahoma, where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in secondary education in 1986. She has been married for 19 years to Oklahoma's governor, Brad Henry. They have three beautiful daughters: Leah, age 16, Laynie, age 14, and Baylee, age eight.

Civic involvement is very important to Kim. She has been active in the Muscular Dystrophy Association, having lost a 7-month-old daughter to spinal muscular atrophy. Currently, Kim serves as an honorary board member of the Children's Medical Research Institute, is on the board of directors of the Close Up Foundation, the Jasmine Moran Children's Museum, Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness, K20 Center for Educational and Community Renewal, and the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation. Kim also serves on the board of directors of the Oklahoma Academy of State Goals and Leadership Oklahoma. Kim is on the board of trustees of the Sarkey's Foundation and the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence. She also serves on the National Task Force on Early Childhood Education for Hispanics.

Kim's civic involvement and dedication to education has led her to receive numerous awards and honors. The Oklahoma Education Association awarded her The Friend of Education Award in 2005. She was also the recipient of the 2004 Award of Distinction, given by the Board of Advocates of the University of Oklahoma, College of Education. She was honored in 2004 by The Journal Record's 50 Most Distinguished Women and received the Bill Lowry Library Champion Award for her work in literacy. In addition to these, Kim was also chosen as one of the March of Dimes 2005 Great Spirits. Kim was awarded the Jasmine Award by the Jasmine Moran Children's Museum as a tribute to her unending concern, dedication and tireless efforts on behalf of Oklahoma's children.

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