

A photograph of George W. Bush and Laura Bush standing together in a formal room. George is on the left, wearing a dark blue suit, white shirt, and blue tie. Laura is on the right, wearing a dark purple dress. They are both smiling. The background features a large mirror, two lamps with white shades, and floral wallpaper. A dark wooden door is on the left.

THE GEORGE W. BUSH PRESIDENTIAL CENTER

A CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM

THE GEORGE W. BUSH
PRESIDENTIAL CENTER

A C E L E B R A T I O N O F F R E E D O M



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MAKING HISTORY

DEDICATION CEREMONY AND CELEBRATIONS

April 25, 2013

This beautiful building has my name above the door, but it belongs to you. It honors the cause we serve and the country we share. For eight years, you gave me the honor of serving as your president. And today I am proud to dedicate this center to the American people.

— PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH





Alexander Hamilton once worried about ex-presidents 'wandering among the people like discontented ghosts.' Actually, I think we seem pretty happy.

— PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH



One of the cutest, sweetest men I know loves a good sock.

— JENNA BUSH HAGER

ABOVE: A SELF-PROCLAIMED "SOCK MAN," PRESIDENT GEORGE H. W. BUSH HAD SOME FUN WITH HIS POLKA-DOTTED ACCESSORIES AT THE DEDICATION. PRESIDENTIAL GRANDDAUGHTER JENNA BUSH HAGER TWEETED A PHOTO AND WROTE, "ONE OF THE CUTEST, SWEETEST MEN I KNOW LOVES A GOOD SOCK."



The presidency is about all of the people, civilian and military, who join with that president in years of service to our remarkable Nation. They are the people who put in countless late nights and earlier mornings, who spend less time with their family and friends and more time hard at work caring for our country. This building is here because of your service, and for that George and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

— MRS. LAURA BUSH

ABOVE: PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH WITH HIS CURRENT AND FORMER PERSONAL AIDES, (LEFT TO RIGHT) LOGAN WALTERS, JARED WEINSTEIN, ISRAEL HERNANDEZ, PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH, DAVID SHERZER, FREDDY FORD, BLAKE GOTTESMAN



LEFT: REUNION OF FORMER EAST WING STAFF AND
RESIDENCE STAFF

Well, of course, we're so proud of him. We know him as our dad. And he's been such a terrific father to us for our entire lives. So when you walk into this museum, and you see baby pictures of us with him, that's how we see him. But more than that, we're proud of his service to our country. And everything he did.

— DAUGHTER JENNA BUSH HAGER

It's fun to celebrate him as a leader, as a values-driven person, and to relive so many of the memories we had when he was the president.

— DAUGHTER BARBARA PIERCE BUSH





In politics, you learn who your real friends are—and our friends have stood with us every step of the way. And today's a day to give you a proper thanks.

— PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH

LEFT AND ABOVE: BUSH-CHENEY ALUMNI AND THEIR FAMILIES CELEBRATE THE DEDICATION OF THE BUSH CENTER.





THE GEORGE W. BUSH PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM OPENS WITH AN EXHIBIT ON THE BUSHES' EARLY LIVES IN TEXAS AND LIFE IN THE WHITE HOUSE PRE-9/11, INCLUDING TWO DOMESTIC POLICY INITIATIVES: THE TAX CUTS AND THE LANDMARK EDUCATION ACT, "NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND."



When George was elected president, we believed the most urgent challenges facing the country were domestic. The Cold War was over, and peace was on its way to Northern Ireland and the Balkans. George's first focus was on education reform, tax cuts and establishing the faith-based and community initiative office.

— MRS. LAURA BUSH



LEFT AND ABOVE: A COLLECTION OF MEMORABILIA FROM THE 2000 CAMPAIGN, INCLUDING THE CLASSIC “DUBYA” PIN

The park is a unique feature among presidential libraries and reflects President and Mrs. Bush's love of the native Texas landscape and their belief that the center should contribute to the everyday life of nearby communities.

The landscape gives visitors an opportunity to experience native Texas ecoregions that once thrived in the area but which had in recent years disappeared. The parkland, at the eastern edge of the Southern Methodist University campus, is open to all; benches and bridges along a network of public paths provide places to stop and observe the changing seasons. Partially shaded lawns frame the park's edges to create open and inviting public spaces for sitting, picnicking and playing. A stone amphitheater can host events but also offers a place for smaller-scale everyday gatherings.

— MICHAEL VAN VALKENBURGH, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

RIGHT: THE 15-ACRE PUBLIC PARK IS DESIGNED TO BE A GATHERING PLACE FOR NEIGHBORS AND VISITORS, HUMAN AND CANINE. IT FEATURES NATIVE PLANTS, PERMEABLE SURFACES AND A SELF-SUSTAINING WATER CONSERVATION SYSTEM. DOZENS OF TREES WERE TRANSPLANTED FROM THE BUSH FAMILY'S PRAIRIE CHAPEL RANCH IN CRAWFORD, TEXAS. THE WILDFLOWER SEED COMBINATION FOR THE MEADOW WAS SPECIALLY DESIGNED BY THE LADY BIRD JOHNSON WILDFLOWER CENTER IN AUSTIN, TEXAS. A SIGNATURE FEATURE IS A SEASONAL FIELD OF TEXAS BLUEBONNETS.





PRINCIPLES AND PURPOSE

THE GEORGE W. BUSH INSTITUTE

We're here to advance principles that transcend politics and advance policy that improves people's lives.

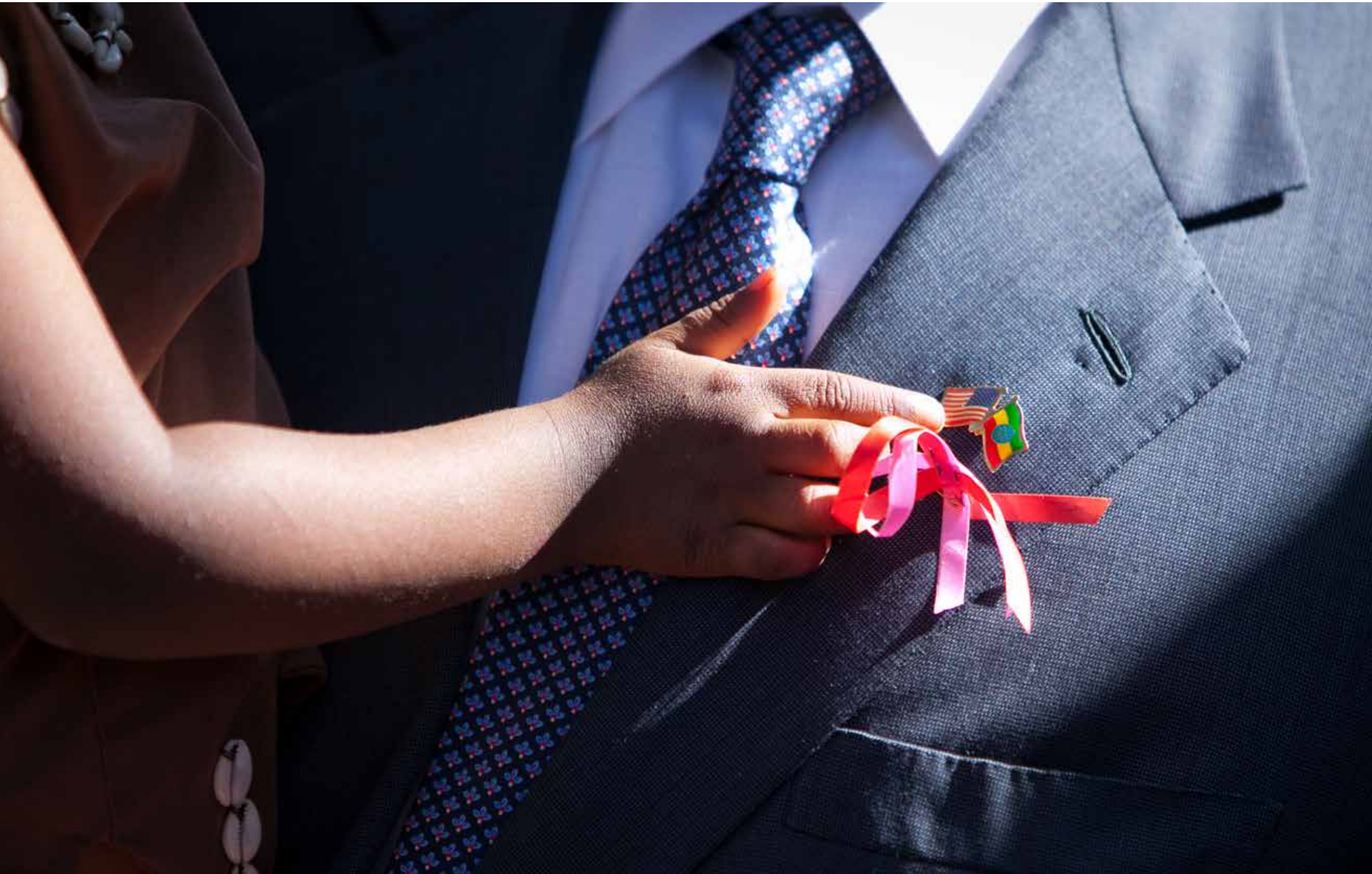
— PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH



ABOVE: PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH TALKS TO STUDENTS AT A KIPP CHARTER SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2012. PRESIDENT BUSH TOURED BOTH THE KIPP EXPLORE AND KIPP INTREPID SCHOOLS IN HOUSTON AND DISCUSSED THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION, CHARACTER AND LEADERSHIP.

In order to have a prosperous and more free America, we have to have an education system that works. The Bush Center is part of a reform movement that insists upon accountability as a key to educational excellence.

— PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH



A life of service is a life of significance.

— PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH



ABOVE: PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH IN ETHIOPIA IN 2011



I'll be riding across the deserts of Texas with wounded warriors to show the unbelievable character of our men and women in uniform ... it's a ride to herald people who were dealt a severe blow and said, 'I'm not going to let it tear me down.'

— PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH



The W100K: Legs made of carbon fiber and a spirit stronger than steel.

— PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH



LEFT: WOMEN'S INITIATIVE FELLOWS FROM EGYPT VIEW THE PYRAMIDS ON GOOGLE EARTH DURING A VISIT TO THE GOOGLE CAMPUS IN CALIFORNIA.



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— PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH

AT THE DEDICATION OF THE GEORGE W. BUSH PRESIDENTIAL CENTER, APRIL 25, 2013

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