

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**BRILLIANT LECTURE SERIES IS HONORED TO EXCLUSIVELY PRESENT
THE TEXAS BOOK TOUR FOR ANN ROMNEY'S HIGHLY ANTICIPATED MEMOIR**

Houston, TX – Ann Romney, former First Lady of Massachusetts, founder and global ambassador of the Ann Romney Center for Neurologic Diseases at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston and bestselling author, will launch her newest book this fall, that details, for the first time, her battle with Multiple Sclerosis.

In October Brilliant Lecture Series will present Conversations with Ann Romney in Houston, Austin and Dallas. Mrs. Romney will talk candidly about her journey with MS, a disease estimated to affect more than 2.3 million people worldwide (source: National MS Society). She will share intimate details from her initial diagnosis in 1998, through the highs and lows of her treatment to the sources of faith that gave her strength and ultimately transformed her life and that of her family. She'll share the wisdom of others who have touched her life and inspired her to make what has been an astounding recovery.

Author's proceeds from the book will be donated to the Ann Romney Center for Neurologic Diseases at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. This research initiative will convene and lead a global collaboration in medical research to accelerate treatment, prevention and cures for five of the world's most complex and devastating neurologic diseases. The center's mission is to inspire hope and empower those confronting multiple sclerosis (MS), Alzheimer's disease, ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease), Parkinson's disease and brain tumors, which affect more than 50 million people around the globe.

"A lot of people talk about a transformation that happens when life throws you a curveball, and the big one in my life was my MS diagnosis," said Romney. "With all the blessings I've had, I believe MS has been my greatest teacher: it has taught me about faith, compassion, and serving others. I've met many people along the way who've shared advice and demonstrated enormous resilience in the face of challenges: their stories gave me strength. In sharing my story, I want to give others hope, as I've been given hope on this journey."

Events in Houston will be held on Wednesday, October 21st at two different locations listed below. Austin and Dallas events will be held October 22nd and October 23rd respectively at locations to be announced shortly.

- **Breakfast at 8:00 – 9:30 at The Club at Carlton Woods** located at One Carlton Wood Drive Woodlands
- **Wine Reception at 5:30-7:00pm at Asia Society Texas Center** located at 1370 Southmore Blvd. Houston

All tickets \$80.00 per person includes breakfast or wine reception, a moderated conversation with Mrs. Romney and autographed copy of her memoir, *In this together: My Story*.

Brilliant Lecture Series is a non-profit organization known for presenting programs that educate, inspire and entertain audiences from every walk of life. Celebrating its 10th anniversary, BRILLIANT delivers interactive audience experiences featuring regional, national and international leaders, role models, philanthropists, humanitarians, entertainers and artists. Launched with a lecture by Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan in 2005 attended by some 2,000 people, including students from partnering schools and non-profit organizations, additional speakers include Secretary-General Kofi Annan, Dame Julie Andrews, Lauren Bacall, Diana Ross, President Mikhail Gorbachev, Betty White, Dr. Maya Angelou, George Clooney and performances with the Texas Tenors, Shaping Sound and internationally acclaimed Potted Potter.