

# NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2025



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## AUSTIN WOMAN'S CLUB

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NEWSLETTER

### *Reflections from Anna*

Dear Ladies of the Austin Woman's Club,

What a fantastic month we have enjoyed!

A heartfelt thanks to Cammy Jones for orchestrating a wonderful Style Show. Her hand-painted notes on the tables tied the décor together beautifully. We are fortunate that Sarah Sommers and her team from The Gift Solution shared their fashions with us and continue to donate 10% of the sales to the AWC. As usual our models performed with grace and elegance on the runway. Thank you all!

Grateful thanks to Sandy Cangelosi for organizing an outstanding Museum Day. Our docents, many dressed in period costumes, were exceptional, enlightening the crowd while braving the heat. We had wall-to-wall visitors which included 12 from out of the U.S.A., 25 from out of state, and 87 from other Texas cities. Sandy also prepared children's activities which kept our youngest visitors happily occupied. Helen Young and Susan Ashworth provided beautiful piano music throughout the day, and Sylvia Imhoff memorialized the event in beautiful photographs. Lorraine Maslin and her dedicated team cleaned the china cabinets and polished the woodwork making the building gleam for our visitors. The DAR presented us with lovely signage containing information about the rooms in the Chateau. Carly Campbell kept much appreciated iced tea and water flowing for the crowd (we went through 600 cups and ran out of tea!). Our wonderful Chef Vi donated an array of sweet treats, raising more than \$800 in donations. Harry West helped to make the event run smoothly. Michael Hirsch, Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at Huston Tillotson University, was a first-time visitor. He was fascinated to learn of our historical connection with Major Evans and expressed interest in our organizations finding a way to form a partnership of some kind. He will be our guest at the October 9th luncheon.

Finally, warm thanks to Leslie Thomas for arranging a delightful Spanish Wine Dinner. The Austin Wine Merchant selected excellent matching wines for each course of Chef Vi's wonderful dinner - a lovely and fitting conclusion to a busy month.

Best Wishes,

Anna Marie Speir

President Austin Woman's Club



Economic  
Development  
CITY OF AUSTIN

This preservation project is supported in part by  
the City of Austin Economic Development Department.

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Joyce Fisher**

*(Sponsored by Katy Lindsay and Debbie Cochran)*

**Diana Patterson**

*(Sponsored by Kathy Smith and Karen Gernstein)*

**Shirley Walden**

*(Sponsored by Adrienne Watt and Marion Moore)*

## RESERVATION PROCEDURES

### Reservation Procedures

- Reservations need to be made no later than noon on the Tuesday before the luncheon by clicking the reservation button below.
- You will now have the option of paying in advance online, or you can choose the "Pay at the Door" option so that you can pay by cash, check (payable to the Austin Woman's Club), or credit card at the door. A QR Code for free online credit card payments will also be available at check-in.
- **Please note, If you select to Pay at the Door, be advised that you will be required to pay for your lunch even if you do not attend unless you cancel by noon on the Tuesday before the luncheon.**
- For seating and dietary requests, please contact the office at [office@chateauatx.com](mailto:office@chateauatx.com)
- For event specific requests like reserving a table, tables settings, decorations, etc., please contact Maci at [events@chateauatx.com](mailto:events@chateauatx.com).
- The cutoff time of 12:00 p.m. on Tuesdays for that week's AWC luncheon reservations and cancellations.
- Reservations for the same week will not be accepted after Tuesday, and cancellations made after Tuesday will be charged.
- To-go meals (while available) at the luncheons are \$10 per plate which includes entree and sides only (no starters or desserts).

[Click to make a luncheon reservation.](#)



# NOVEMBER 2025

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2025

### 11:30 - 1:00 P.M.

### Past President's Luncheon

#### *Early Members of the Austin Woman's Club*



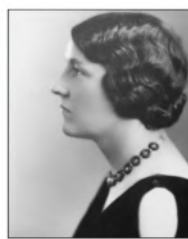
Mrs. Percy V. Pennybacker



Mrs. Miriam A. Ferguson  
Governor of Texas 1925-1927



Mrs. Sam J. Smith  
Founding President



Mrs. Dan Moody



Miss Lila Casis



Mrs. Loomis Slaughter, Historian



Mrs. Zachary T. Scott



Mrs. Paul L. Zedler

#### BEYOND THE PARLOR: THE FOUNDERS OF THE AUSTIN WOMAN'S CLUB

BY DR. GAIL CHOVAN

#### ON THE MENU

Turkey Roulade  
Mashed Potatoes  
Cornbread Casserole  
Glazed Carrots  
Green Bean Almandine  
Chef Vis Magical Chocolate Mousse Cake

***"The founding members of the AWC embraced community while embodying the style, strength and spirit of the Lone Star state."***

Based on 8 founding members of the Austin Woman's Club, the students have researched the accomplishments, style and legacy of each member. The exhibit will include historic garments of the time period - the late 1920s into the early 1930s - based on the members personality, age and role in the club and the community. All of the garments chosen are from the Historic Textiles and Apparel Collection from the School of Human Ecology at UT Austin. The students are a part of the Historic Collection Management and Exhibition Design course led by Professor Gail Chovan which studies and promotes fashion history as it is related to the current industry, museum studies and future careers or volunteerism in the community.

Gail Chovan specializes in conceptual clothing design, artisanal techniques, and the history of costume. She focuses on the genesis of ideas and exploration of inspiration, while instilling strong technical skills in her students.

Chovan teaches courses in History of Dress and Cultural Change and oversees the Historic Textile and Apparel Collection, which houses over 6000 pieces of clothing and artifacts that have been donated.

During her summers, Chovan taught courses in Fashion & Design and Advanced draping at the Cours de Civilisation Française de la Sorbonne as well as at the Paris College of Art in France. She established and serves as the UT Director of the TXA Paris Study Abroad Program.

She is currently pursuing an MLA in Museum Studies through Harvard University.

NOVEMBER 2025

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2025

11:30 - 1:00 P.M.

Introduction by Susan Ashworth

## Big-Outfit Cowboys in the 21st Century

John Langmore



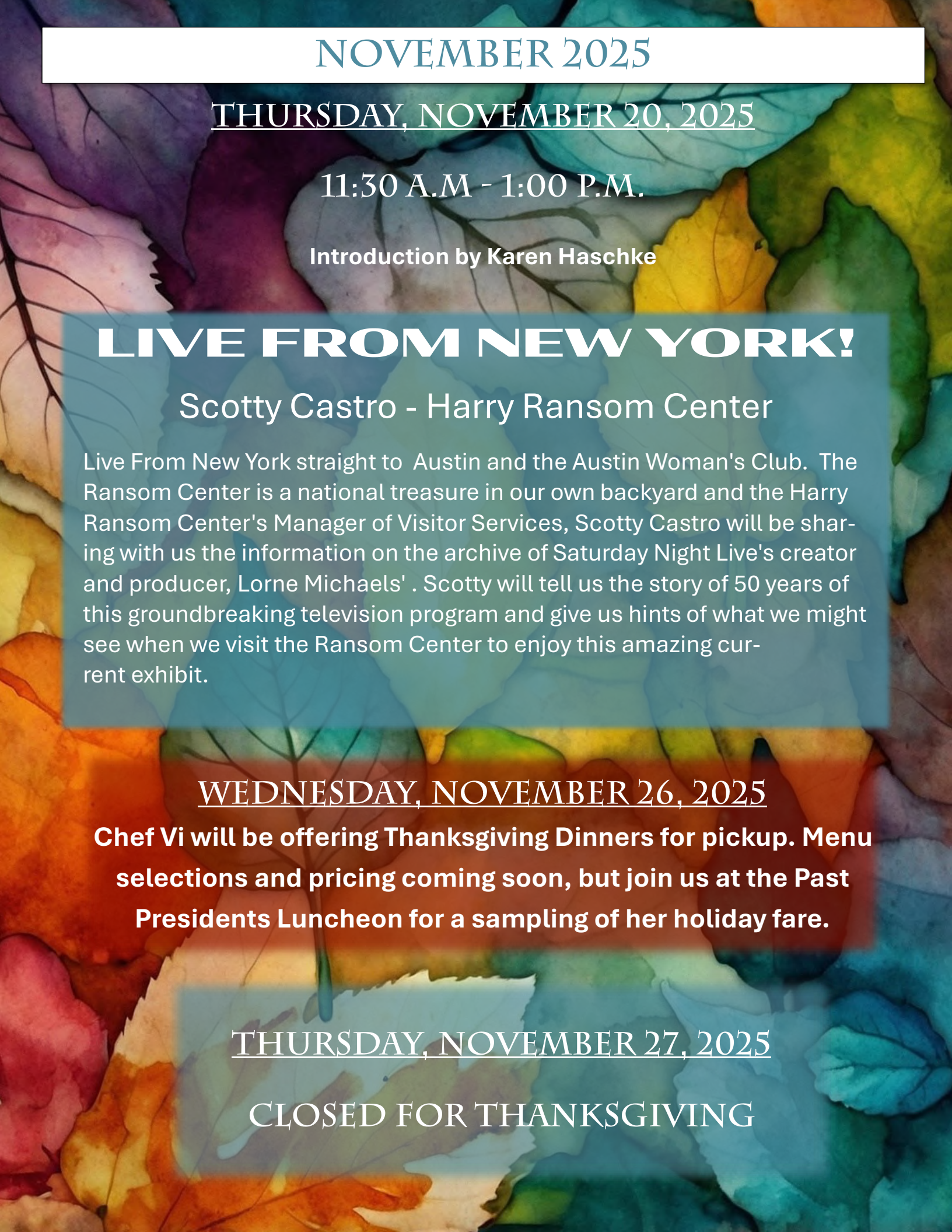
No profession has been eulogized more often than that of the working cowboy, his demise having been foretold since the invention of barbed wire. Yet, after six years on the road photographing the country's largest ranches, **John Langmore** found the drifting, big-outfit cowboy alive and well. John will share his photographs and unrivaled insight to the life of the contemporary working cowboy and the ranches they work on in a discussion that promises to be both educational and entertaining.

### **Bio: John Langmore, Photographer and Film Director/Writer**

John Langmore's relationship with the working cowboy traces back to his great-grandfather who was one of Colonel Teddy Roosevelt's original Rough Riders. His father, Bank Langmore, published ***The Cowboy*** in 1975 and is considered one of the pioneers of contemporary western photography.

Beginning at the age of twelve, John spent twelve summers cowboying on some of the country's largest ranches before becoming a lawyer. John quit the legal profession to pursue his passion for photography and authored ***Open Range – America's Big-Outfit Cowboy***, published by Twin Palms in 2019. He is also the co-director of the award-winning feature-length documentary film, ***Cowboys*** – a documentary portrait. John's photography has been widely published and exhibited, including an exhibition together with his father's work at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. John is also the author of ***Fault Lines: Portraits of East Austin***, published by Trinity University Press.





NOVEMBER 2025

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2025

11:30 A.M - 1:00 P.M.

Introduction by Karen Haschke

## **LIVE FROM NEW YORK!**

Scotty Castro - Harry Ransom Center

Live From New York straight to Austin and the Austin Woman's Club. The Ransom Center is a national treasure in our own backyard and the Harry Ransom Center's Manager of Visitor Services, Scotty Castro will be sharing with us the information on the archive of Saturday Night Live's creator and producer, Lorne Michaels'. Scotty will tell us the story of 50 years of this groundbreaking television program and give us hints of what we might see when we visit the Ransom Center to enjoy this amazing current exhibit.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2025

**Chef Vi will be offering Thanksgiving Dinners for pickup. Menu selections and pricing coming soon, but join us at the Past Presidents Luncheon for a sampling of her holiday fare.**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2025

**CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING**



DECEMBER 2025

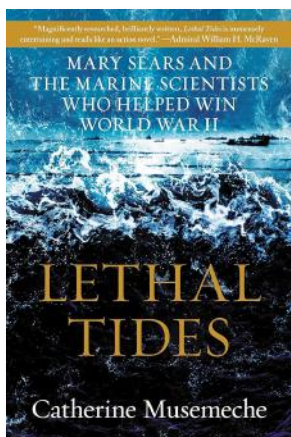
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2025

11:30 - 1:00 P.M.

Introduction by Sandy Blevins

## Lethal Tides: Mary Sears and the Marine Scientist Who Helped Win World War II

By Kate Musemeche



**Catherine “Kate” Musemeche** is a graduate of the University of Texas McGovern Medical School in Houston, Texas, and the University of Texas School of Law. Dr. Musemeche’s first book, *Small*, was longlisted for the E.O. Wilson/PEN American Literary Science Award and was awarded the Texas Writers’ League Discovery Prize for Nonfiction in 2015. Her second book, *Hurt*, was named one of the top ten EMS books of the decade. Her third book, *Lethal Tides: Mary Sears and the Marine Scientists Who Helped Win World War II*, was published by HarperCollins in August and named an Editor’s Pick for Best History on Amazon. She has also contributed to *Smithsonian Magazine*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *Creative Nonfiction* magazine, and *EMS World*. She lives in Austin, Texas.

Dr. Kate will be speaking about her third book, *Lethal Tides: Mary Sears and the Marine Scientist Who Helped Win World War II*. BookPeople will provide copies for purchase and signing.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2025

11:30 - 1:00 P.M.

Introduction by Susan Ashworth

## *Classical Music with Triple Take*

Triple Take has been bringing classical trio repertoire to Central Texas for nearly 10 years. Violinist Javier Chaparro and pianist Maimy Fong are founding members, and cellist Liz Lee joined in 2022. With a wide-ranging repertoire encompassing standards of the trio repertoire (Beethoven, Mozart, Brahms) and little-known gems in less-explored corners (Korngold, Huré, Bridge), Triple Take is committed sharing great music and positive energy with their audiences.





# *Christmas in Paris*

*You are cordially invited to a magical evening  
inspired by The City of Light.*

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

*Featuring:*

- ◆ An extraordinary Chef Vi culinary adventure with an elegant carving station, delectable sides, a variety of wonderful French desserts and two signature cocktails!
- ◆ A marvelous Silent Auction
- ◆ Dancing to the sounds of the Nash Hernandez Orchestra.
- ◆ Cocktail Attire

*\$100 Per Person*

**CHATEAU BELLEVUE**

*Joyeux Noël from the Austin Woman's Club and à bientôt!*

**YOU MAY SEND OR DROP OFF A CHECK TO THE CLUB OR PURCHASE ON LINE**

*The reservation deadline is noon on Tuesday, December 16th*





DECEMBER 2025

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2025

11:30 - 1:00

Introduced by Karen Haschke

## *A Musical Christmas*

*with Anna Simmons and Susan Abbott*

Anna Simmons and Susan Abbott are excited to perform for the Austin Woman's Club on December 19. This will be a musical reunion for the classically trained musicians following their many years of service at Ascension Lutheran Church in Austin where Anna served as the choir director, Susan was the organist, and Brian served as the Pastor. The program will consist of Christmas music performed on the piano (Anna & Susan). The AWC members will also be led in a Christmas carol sing-along.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2025

CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS



DECEMBER 2025

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2025

DOORS OPEN AT 4:15 PM.

CONCERT AT 5:00 P.M.

LIVE! *At Chateau Bellevue*

PRESENTS

DR. ANTON IGUBNOV AND DR. ANDREI ZIMBALIST

PERFORMING

## A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

WITH

EXCERPTS FROM HANDEL'S MESSIAH PLUS MUCH MORE...

FOLLOWED BY TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS CAROLS

TICKETS: \$50 PER PERSON

ADULT BEVERAGE AND SPECIAL HOLIDAY TREATS INCLUDED

[CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS](#)





## Membership Moment

Please consider inviting your friends to our October 30th luncheon and program. Nathan Stephens, Administrator of the Texas State Cemetery, will present the spooky program, ***“Just Who is Sleeping in the Texas State Cemetery?”***

This event is part of our fall membership drive, and we hope to have a great turnout. An electronic and printable invitation to this special luncheon and program is available online or by clicking below.

We hope to grow our AWC membership through everyone's sponsorship efforts.

[Make a Reservation](#)

[Download a Printable Flyer](#)

## Website Update

### Did you know that AWC offers a Scholarship?

Well, we do! The Emilie Wheelock Howson/Mohrmann Scholarship was established many years ago to honor the name of a very distinguished Austin Woman's Club benefactor and to provide financial assistance to worthy coeds working toward a degree at The University of Texas at Austin.

The Austin Woman's Club Howson/Mohrmann Scholarship acknowledges female students currently attending the University of Texas at Austin who are graduating seniors or current graduate students. Applicants must be graduates of a high school in Texas and they must be pursuing a graduate degree in architecture or historical preservation. Learn more at <https://www.austinwomansclub.com/scholarship>.