



2018 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM GRANT DESCRIPTIONS

The following organizations and programs have been chosen to receive funding from the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ Educational Programs throughout the next year.

AFA

The AFA (formerly the American Festival for the Arts) Year-Round Programming and Summer Music Conservatory partners with schools to offer music education programs for youth in the Houston area. The Scholarship Enrichment Fund provides assistance and transportation support to applicants in all AFA programs.

Alley Theatre

The Alley Theatre's Educational and Community Engagement programs serve more than 85,000 students, teachers and families each year. Rodeo funds help underwrite the Partner Schools program along with Student Matinees and School Nights, introducing the magic, power and excitement of theater to students of all ages.

Archway Academy

Archway Academy provides a sober learning environment for high school students who are recovering from substance use disorder and other mental health issues. Archway is the largest recovery high school in the United States and a national model for replication in the field of addiction studies.

BakerRipley

Through its affiliated Workforce Solutions career offices, BakerRipley offers a jobs program for youth ages 16 to 21, placing them in local nonprofit and government agencies throughout the Houston community. Rodeo funding connects these youth — and others in BakerRipley's summer and after-school programs — with training in soft skills, leadership and college/career planning, to help prepare them for their roles in the workplace and beyond.

Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation

The Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation's primary goal is to increase literacy rates among people of all ages in Houston. The foundation is dedicated to raising awareness of the value of literacy and to mobilizing available area resources. The Rodeo's support will help expand the connect4literacy.org system, connecting volunteers to Houston's literacy programs.

Baylor Research Advocates for Student Scientists

BRASS promotes excellence in biomedical research by providing scholarship and research funding to bright young scientists enrolled in the Baylor College of Medicine Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Lone Star

Big Brothers Big Sisters Lone Star creates and sustains meaningful matches between adult volunteers, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, who serve as positive adult role models to children facing adversity, their Little Brothers and Little Sisters. Support from the Rodeo will allow BBBS Lone Star to deliver one-on-one mentoring to more than 2,000 students during the 2017 – 2018 school year.

Books Between Kids

Books Between Kids gathers donated books and distributes them each May to more than 25,000 students in the Houston area. Children are able to attend a book selection fair at their schools, and each child chooses six books of interest. The books are for the children to own and take home, building their personal libraries. Rodeo volunteers have donated more than 100,000 books to the program since 2014.

Borderlands Research Institute – Sul Ross State University

Students hired from the Wildlife Research and Management Mentorship Program work on various research and management projects conducted by the Sul Ross State University Borderlands Research Institute to help conserve the natural resources of the Chihuahuan Desert Borderlands.

Breakthrough Houston

Breakthrough Houston provides tuition-free, academic enrichment and college preparatory programming to underserved students, seventh through 12th grades, in the Greater Houston area.

Brookwood Community

The Brookwood Community, located in Brookshire, Texas, provides an educational environment that creates meaningful jobs, builds a sense of belonging, and fosters dignity and respect for adults with disabilities. The Brookwood Community receives year-round support from the Rodeo, as well as exhibit space during the event for community residents to sell their hand-made products.

Camp For All

Camp For All is a barrier-free camp, working in partnership with more than 60 other nonprofit organizations and institutions, to provide children and teenagers with illnesses and/or special needs a unique camp experience. Funding supports the Equestrian Program, which provides recreational, educational and therapeutic benefits to people of all abilities.

The Center for Hearing and Speech

The Center for Hearing and Speech Melinda Webb School allows deaf and hearing-impaired children the chance to experience an average childhood in a mainstream school. The school teaches deaf children, ages 18 months through six years, to listen, speak and read by the time they enter first grade.

Children's Museum of Houston

The Children's Museum of Houston's Kidtropolis is a child-sized city that teaches visitors lessons about civic engagement and the works of government, communications, economics and businesses. Rodeo funding supports the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Vet Clinic, a hands-on area that teaches children about the care and treatment of both small and large animals.

Chinquapin Preparatory School

Chinquapin Preparatory School is a private, college preparatory boarding school located in Highlands, Texas, that serves more than 150 youth in grades sixth through 12. Through a rigorous academic program and a strong emphasis on community, Chinquapin aims to produce college-ready adults who are effective communicators and responsible community members.

Crime Stoppers of Houston

The Crime Stoppers of Houston Safe School Program is a proactive crime-prevention and public-safety tool used in public and private schools across the city. Students are trained on issues concerning public safety, security of their school campuses and citizenship.

Cristo Rey Jesuit College Preparatory School of Houston

Cristo Rey Jesuit College Preparatory School of Houston provides demanding college prep curriculum to students who are living at or below the federal poverty line. Students attend class four days a week and a work-study program one day a week in an entry level position at many of Houston's top companies and organizations. One hundred percent of Cristo Rey graduates were accepted to a college before their high school graduation.

ESCAPE Family Resource Center

ESCAPE Family Resource Center's primary goal is to reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect in the Greater Houston area. The Center offers 11 curriculum-based child abuse prevention programs, one home visitation program for families, and numerous trainings for professionals and other individuals who work with children.

Girl Scouts of San Jacinto

Girl Scouts builds girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place. Rodeo funding supports community outreach programs, which allows girls to discover a wide variety of interests while developing their leadership capacity to make a difference in the world and in the community.

Glassell School of Art

The Houston Museum of Fine Art's Glassell School of Art summer workshops offer a variety of programs for eligible students, kindergarten through high school, who participated in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo School Art Program. Students are able to showcase their work at school exhibitions.

Greater Houston Partnership – Opportunity Houston 2.0

Greater Houston Partnership – Opportunity Houston 2.0 is an initiative to help ensure continued job growth and capital, as well as foreign investment growth within the Houston area.

H.E.A.R.T — Housing, Entrepreneurship and Readiness Training

Housing, Entrepreneurship and Readiness Training is an educational and job-training program for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. H.E.A.R.T. prepares trainees for work by covering areas such as product inventory, shipping and receiving, and customer service. Participants work in the community at various organizations and venues, including NRG Stadium.

Harris County Hospital District Foundation

The Harris County Hospital District Foundation raises funds and public support for Harris Health System programs and services. The Rodeo's funding supports the Shattered Dreams program, which dramatizes alcohol-related car accidents to help educate high school students on the deadly consequences of driving under the influence.

The Hobby Center Foundation

The Hobby Center Foundation Discovery Series is an arts education community partnership that provides an opportunity for teachers and students to experience the arts outside of the classroom in a Downtown Theater District venue.

Houston Area Women's Center

The Houston Area Women's Center is a safe haven for individuals affected by domestic or sexual violence, and includes shelter, counseling, and advocacy for all involved. The Rodeo's support helps fund the center's Sunshine Learning Center, which provides a safe and nurturing learning environment for children between the ages of three months and nine years, living at the shelter.

Houston Ballet Foundation

The Houston Ballet Foundation's Education and Community Outreach Initiatives bring first-grade through 12th-grade students into Houston Ballet's studios, as well as offer programs that go directly into schools and community facilities to educate and inspire students.

Houston Community College

The Public Safety Center of Excellence plays a critical role in producing highly trained and skilled first responders for emergency situations. The Center provides basic, intermediate, and advanced certificates and licensing for first responder professionals who in turn protect life, evidence, property, or the environment during an emergency. Rodeo funds support advanced, high-performing students enrolled in the program.

Houston Grand Opera

Houston Grand Opera's educational outreach programs, HGOco, are Student Performance Series; OPERA TO GO!, a touring performance of children's opera; and Story Book Opera, an educational outreach enhanced with curriculum materials and teacher workshops.

Houston Health Foundation

The See to Succeed program is a safety net program in Houston for children with vision impairment, and is supported by the Houston Health Foundation in collaboration with local area school districts. See to Succeed has provided full eye exams, free of charge, for more than 47,000 children who failed a school-administered screening test. More than 43,000 of those children received a free pair of glasses.

Houston Hispanic Forum

The Houston Hispanic Forum's Career and Education Day is a day-long event held for more than 10,000 middle and high school students, teachers, counselors and parents. The Career and Education Day's mission is to reduce the dropout rate among Hispanic students and provide assistance to students and families as they pursue educational and career goals.

Houston Police Foundation

The Tactical Village facility is a training space for Houston Police Department officers to receive essential education and training to protect and help ensure the safety of the city of Houston and its citizens.

Houston SPCA

Rodeo funding supports the Houston SPCA and Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences partnership, which offers fourth-year veterinary students the opportunity to work side by side with Houston SPCA veterinarians. Students learn about a variety of conditions, diseases, disorders, injuries and treatment needs that affect diverse species of animals.

Houston Symphony

The Houston Symphony provides the Student Concert Series for elementary and middle school students, along with related classroom visits by musicians and supplemental teaching materials. The Symphony's education programs serve nearly 100,000 Houston-area students.

iWrite

iWrite inspires kids to write their own stories and provides publishing and leadership opportunities to youth. Since reading and writing go hand-in-hand, iWrite encourages readers to use their imagination and communicate through the written word.

King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management

The King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management teaches graduate students the components of ranch management using a multi-disciplinary, systems approach to education. The program serves the ranching industry by empowering graduate students and outreach attendees with skills that will enable them to strategically manage complex ranching operations and successfully lead the ranching industry.

KIPP Houston

KIPP Houston's mission is to provide underserved students with the academic and character foundation to succeed at all levels of PreK-12 education, college and the competitive world beyond. As a public charter school, KIPP Houston expects to serve more than 14,000 Houston students this year.

Lone Star Flight Museum

The Aviation Learning Center, located within the museum, is an innovative facility designed for students in grades five through 12. The ALC includes a Learning Laboratory, Simulator Bay, and Hangar, and provides a STEM based curriculum offering a full hands-on flight experience to inspire and educate students about principles of flight, aircraft aerodynamics and design, climate science, aircraft maintenance and more.

The Longhorn Project

The Longhorn Project teaches students the value of responsibility, leadership and hard work through year-round participation in raising, caring for and showing a Texas Longhorn calf. It also provides students in surrounding school districts an experience that exposes them to and educates them about agriscience and livestock through tours of the agriscience facility located at Johnson Space Center.

Medilife Houston

Through Medilife Houston, members of the Houston Fire Department Public Affairs and Educational Division attend approximately 1,500 events each year, offering educational and community events support. The vision of the organization is to continue supporting fire and community initiatives by purchasing equipment and other items that do not normally fall under the HFD operating and community support budget.

Memorial Park Conservancy

Supports research by students and classes in higher education institutions related to ecology, natural resources, progressive recreation and cultural heritage.

Miracle Farm

Miracle Farm's core residential program serves as an intervention and preventive measure for at-risk teenage boys. These young men attend an on-campus charter school, receive vocational training, and engage in horsemanship, and ranch and range management.

NASA – Texas Aerospace Scholars

NASA – Texas Aerospace Scholars is a unique partnership created by the state of Texas and the Johnson Space Center to encourage Texas youth to pursue science, technology, engineering and mathematics degrees and careers. Programs are offered to high school and community college students.

Neuhaus Education Center

Funding supports the Neuhaus/HISD Early Childhood Literacy Initiative, a partnership focused on literacy throughout pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and first grade years. Rodeo funding supports professional learning and training for teachers as well as the implementation and evaluation of the program.

Prairie View A&M University

The Prairie View A&M University – ISD Partnership Initiative is designed to provide college access to high school graduates in school districts in Harris and surrounding counties. Rodeo funding will help PVAMU to offer scholarships to students in select ISD's in Harris and surrounding counties.

Project GRAD Houston

Project GRAD Houston supports high school and college students by delivering the tools and resources necessary for students to prepare for, enroll in and succeed in college. Rodeo funding helps Project GRAD enroll more than 500 new Project GRAD scholars each year.

Reasoning Mind

Reasoning Mind designs and implements interactive, online mathematics programs for students in pre-K through seventh grade, using advanced technology to ignite their interest in math, develop higher-order thinking skills, and prepare them for higher-level math. Currently, more than 30,000 students in the Houston area are enrolled.

The Rise School of Houston

The Rise School of Houston is dedicated to the early education of infants, toddlers and pre-school children born with Down Syndrome and other developmental disabilities. The Rise School prepares these children for a successful kindergarten through 12th-grade experience, and for life.

Sam Houston State University

Rodeo funds support the Sam Houston State University Department of Agricultural Sciences and Engineering Technology to provide industry standard tools and equipment that are vital to preparing students to fill an expanding workforce in agriculture education.

Schreiner University – Western Art Academy Workshop

The Museum of Western Art provides Schreiner University – Western Art Academy Workshop awards scholarships to 48 students who participate in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo School Art Program each year. These scholarships allow high school sophomores, juniors and seniors to learn traditional Western art techniques from practicing professional artists.

SIRE Therapeutic Horsemanship

SIRE Therapeutic Horsemanship seeks to improve the quality of life for those with special needs through therapeutic horsemanship activities, therapies and educational outreach.

Small Steps Nurturing Center

Small Steps Nurturing Center operates two preschools for children ages two to six who live in the First, Second and Fifth wards of Houston. The schools offer a Christian environment, transportation to and from school, nutritional meals, and counseling to students. The school requires parents to volunteer a minimum of 10 hours per school year.

Teach for America – Houston

Teach for America recruits outstanding recent college graduates to commit two years to teach in urban and rural areas and become lifelong leaders in pursuing educational excellence and equality. Last year, Teach For America – Houston served 41,000 Houston students through the placement, support and engagement of 215 teachers and nearly 500 alumni teachers who have continued in education.

Texas 4-H

State 4-H Congress

State 4-H Congress is a five-day, simulated legislative experience for 4-H members 15 to 18 years old. Approximately 350 members from all geographic and program areas of the Texas 4-H program use the Texas Capitol in Austin during July to submit, debate and pass bills dealing with subjects of concern to 4-H members.

State 4-H Leadership Conference

The State 4-H Leadership Conference is a citizenship experience to Washington, District of Columbia, for up to 31 Texas 4-H members who have excelled in their record-keeping skills and have been awarded first place for their record books.

Striving for Leadership

These funds support 33 students, elected by their peers to the Texas 4-H Council, who will plan and teach leadership workshops for 85 district-level 4-H officers. District officers represent the 12 extension areas in Texas.

Texas A&M University

Beef Cattle Short Course

The Beef Cattle Short Course at Texas A&M University focuses on Texas beef cattle producers and presents seminars to help the industry improve efficiency and profitability. Funds are used to defray high school and college students' registration costs for this annual program.

Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans

Held at the Mays Business School at Texas A&M University, the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans provides training and mentoring in entrepreneurship and small business management to veterans with disabilities resulting from their military service in Iraq or Afghanistan. The Mays Business School is one of eight select business programs in the U.S. that offer the EBV programs.

Texas FFA Association

Career Development Winners

Rodeo funds are used to defray FFA chapter expenses for Texas Career Development winners at national FFA career development events held in conjunction with the national FFA convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, each fall.

Leadership Development Awards

The Leadership Development Finals are the culmination of a statewide tournament that begins with 57 district-level events. More than 5,000 entries compete at the district levels in 13 leadership contests, and 20 semifinalists qualify at area-level contests for the state competition hosted by Sam Houston State University. The financial support of the Rodeo allows participants to defray some of the entry fee costs.

State Leadership Conference and Area Conferences

The State Leadership Conference provides training for more than 75 officers of the Texas FFA Association's 12 areas, who in turn, provide training for the state's district and chapter officers. Funding also supports leadership conferences conducted by the state's 12 area associations.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation provides support to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to manage and conserve the natural and cultural resources of Texas and provide outdoor recreational opportunities for present and future generations.

Texas Ranger Association Foundation

The Texas Ranger Association Foundation is committed to preserving and perpetuating the history and heritage of the Texas Rangers. The foundation assists with the expansion and improvement of programs and activities at the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum located in Waco, Texas.

Texas Southern University

The Interdisciplinary Health Professions Simulation Center at Texas Southern University is designed to integrate interdisciplinary education, simulation training, and inter-organizational collaboration into the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Students from each of the health science disciplines are represented in this simulated setting. Students participate in ongoing inter-professional trainings and practice with a focus on preparing learners to be practice-ready, team-oriented, patient-centered health professionals.

Texas Tech University

The National Ranching Heritage Center has partnered with author John R. Erickson in a three-book Ranch Life Learning Series that explains ranch life to children through the humorous voice of "Hank the Cowdog." The NRHC has partnered with social studies and science education specialists to create activities for the books that will provide educators with a cross-curriculum unit to teach classrooms about topics relevant to agriculture, food, fiber, and ranching.

Texas Wildlife Association Foundation

The Learning Across New Dimensions in Science program of the Texas Wildlife Association Foundation provides educational programs about agriculture, wildlife and habitat conservation to Texas schools. Through teacher training, curriculum materials and traveling exhibits, the program is able to educate both teachers and students.

Theatre Under The Stars

YMCA

Theatre Under The Stars, along with the YMCA, provides after-school care programs and summer programs to benefit low-income students. Young people have a chance to learn music appreciation and arts education.

The River Performing and Visual Arts Center

The River Performing and Visual Arts Center, a program offered by Theatre Under the Stars, provides accessible, affordable fine arts opportunities for children, ages two to 19, with disabilities or chronic illnesses, or who are economically disadvantaged.

The University of Texas at Austin – UTeach

The University of Texas at Austin – UTeach program addresses the shortage of qualified math and science teachers in Texas and beyond. UTeach integrates a rigorous math and/or science major, research experience, acquisition of effective teaching techniques, field experience, and certification into a four-year program. Its mission is to attract and retain more teachers; create better students in kindergarten through 12th-grade science and math education; establish a pre-service curriculum that integrates modern technological teaching tools, scientific discovery, and subject mastery; and build partnerships with school systems and teachers across Texas.

To Educate All Children – TEACH

TEACH provides educators with intensive training in classroom culture to make school a safe and special place, focusing on de-escalation, conflict resolution, nonverbal communication, and building the self-confidence of every student.

United Way

Funding supports the United Way 2-1-1 Texas Helpline program, which provides support to anyone in need of information, referrals and coordination of health and human services. Calls are facilitated in more than 150 languages and cater to specific needs, such as physical and mental health, child care, veterans' assistance, and counseling and disaster recovery.

University of Houston – Clear Lake Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities

Rodeo funding supports a summer training course at the University of Houston – Clear Lake Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities designed to help both teachers and para-professionals utilize Applied Behavior Analysis training techniques for students with autism.

UTHealth

UTHealth School of Nursing has established a Veterans' Bachelor of Science in Nursing program to provide veterans the opportunity to transition into the professional nursing field. The program is designed to address the unique academic needs of returning veterans and the many issues of reintegration through case management and peer support for each veteran. Rodeo funding provides scholarships to students enrolled in the program.

Writers in the Schools

Writers in the Schools programming, WITS Creative, provides students with weekly literacy workshops taught by professional writers. Children are exposed to a variety of literary genres and inspiration from visiting cultural or nature-based venues.

Yellowstone Academy

Yellowstone Academy is a private, faith-based school providing a specialized academic curriculum to address the educational challenges of children living in poverty. The school serves students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade and provides them with two full meals a day, uniforms, bus transportation, health screenings, physical education and extracurricular activities.

YMCA of Greater Houston

The YMCA of Greater Houston's Camp Cullen, located in Trinity, Texas, is offered to students within the Houston ISD and other area school districts. It is a six-day, overnight camping experience and includes equestrian programs, water sports, ropes course and climbing, fishing, arts and crafts, and science. The Rodeo's funding supports hundreds of scholarships to students who live in low-income areas of Houston for the summer of 2018.