



2024 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

AFA (formerly the American Festival for the Arts) partners with schools to offer year-round music education programs for young musicians in the Houston area. Rodeo funds support the Play it Forward assistance to participants in all AFA programs to provide tuition, instruction and instruments.

Alley Theatre

The Alley Theatre's Educational and Community Engagement programs introduce the magic, power and excitement of theater to students, teachers and families across the greater Houston area.

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 Rodeo's funding will help provide materials and resources for the Science of Reading in Action program.

Baylor College of Medicine – Baylor Research Advocates for Student Scientists (BRASS)

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

Big Brothers Big Sisters Lone Star

Big Brothers Big Sisters Lone Star creates and sustains almost 2,000 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.

Books Between Kids

Books Between Kids gathers donated books and distributes them each May to more than 40,000 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.

Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Houston

Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Houston provides after-school and summer programming for young people at more than 23 clubs across the Houston area. Show funding supports Power Hour, an individualized tutoring and STEAM enrichment program to help students succeed academically.

Boys and Girls Country

Boys and Girls Country offers children in crisis a secure and stable home environment. Boys and Girls Country has empowered more than 1,600 children with the necessary motivation and skills to thrive despite the challenges of life. Rodeo funds support the Educational and Enrichment program.

Breakthrough Houston

Breakthrough Houston provides tuition-free, academic enrichment and college preparatory programming to underserved students, 7th through 12th grades, in the Greater Houston area in addition to teacher training and mentorship opportunities for college students pursuing careers in education.

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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. Rodeo funds specifically support Brookwood's Horticultural Program.

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.

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.

Council on Recovery

The Council on Recovery's Choices Program is an evidence-based prevention program designed to address the growing body of knowledge regarding high school students who engage in multiple high-risk behaviors. The primary goal is to reduce the number of students engaging in these behaviors by providing prevention, education, intervention and counseling.

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 cyber safety.

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.

Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council

Through its Girl Scout Outreach program, the Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council closes the gap in underserved areas by giving all girls an equitable opportunity to grow their leadership skills and prepare them to meet educational obstacles and widespread challenges with courage, confidence and character.

Museum of Fine Arts Houston - Glassell School of Art

MFAH's The Glassell School of Art offers a variety of instructional art courses for students who participated in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo School Art Program. Rodeo funds support scholarships for the Junior School, Advanced Portfolio Preparation program and Summer Institute for Visual Arts Teachers.

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

Housing, Entrepreneurship and Readiness Training is a job-training program for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Participants work in the community at various organizations and venues, including NRG Stadium.

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Hobby Center Foundation

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

Houston Ballet

The Houston Ballet'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 - Public Safety Center of Excellence

The Public Safety Center of Excellence plays a critical role in producing highly trained first responders. The Center provides basic, intermediate, and advanced certificates and licensing for first responder professionals. Rodeo funds support students enrolled in the police, fire and EMT training programs.

Houston Grand Opera

Houston Grand Opera's Community & Learning Programs provide meaningful, accessible opportunities for over 70,000 Greater Houston students and families to engage with the opera. The flagship programs supported by the Show are Opera to Go!, Storybook Opera and the Student Performance Series.

Houston Health Foundation

The Houston Health Foundation See to Succeed program is a school-linked program that improves the eyesight of the Houston area's most medically underserved children through comprehensive eye exams and corrective eyewear at no cost to their families.

Houston Police Foundation

The Houston Police Foundation provides resources, programming, equipment and technology to the Houston Police Department. Rodeo funding supports professional training of Houston Area police officers for emergency situations and criminal investigations.

Houston SPCA

Rodeo funding supports the Houston SPCA and Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences Partnership, which provides all fourth-year veterinary a residential rotation with Houston SPCA's 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, middle and high school students, along with related classroom visits by musicians and supplemental teaching materials.

Houston Zoo

The Houston Zoo's Conservation Education programs aims to cultivate a community of citizens interested, aware, equipped and ready to take action to save wildlife. The core programs supported by the Show are Camp Zoofari, Saving Wildlife School Partners, Zoo Crew and the Collegiate Conservation Program.

Medilife Houston – Houston Fire Department

Through Medilife Houston, members of the Houston Fire Department Public Affairs and Educational Division provide educational and community initiative support that does not normally fall under the HFD operating and community support budget.

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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.

Neuhaus Education Center

Funding supports a collaborating partnership between Neuhaus and Houston Independent School District. Rodeo funding supports professional learning and training for Pre-K and Kindergarten teachers as well as the implementation and evaluation of the program.

Prairie View A&M University - Passport to Careers in Agriculture

Prairie View A&M University's College of Agriculture and Human Sciences hosts the Passport to Careers in Agriculture pre-college program. Rodeo funds supports the Research Extension Apprenticeship Program summer residential experience for high school students on the PVAMU campus.

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. Rise prepares these children for a successful kindergarten through 12th grade experience.

Sam Houston State University

Rodeo funds support the Sam Houston State University Department of Agricultural Sciences and Engineering Technology in preparing students to fill an expanding workforce in agriculture education.

Schreiner University – Western Art Academy

The Western Art Academy is a month-long workshop for high school sophomores, juniors and seniors at Schreiner University. 48 Students awarded through the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo School Art Program 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 and Fifth wards of Houston. Small Steps offers a Christian environment, transportation to and from school, nutritional meals and counseling to students.

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.

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 areas of Texas come to the Texas Capitol in Austin in July to submit, debate and pass bills dealing with subjects facing Texas.

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State 4-H Leadership Conference

The State 4-H Leadership Conference is a citizenship experience to Washington, D.C. for up to 30 Texas 4-H members who have excelled in their recordkeeping skills and have been awarded first place for their record books.

Striving for Leadership

These funds support students that comprise several leadership groups. These include Texas 4-H Council, district leadership teams and several ambassador leadership groups in the areas of livestock, health, water and STEM.

Texas 4-H Youth Livestock and Agriculture

The Norman Borlaug Youth in Agriculture Program is an academic enrichment program for outstanding high school students from around Texas. Students engage in face-to-face, structured, hands-on experiences in ranching, viticulture, soil and water conservation, row crop farming, hunger & nutrition, greenhouse gas emissions, urban sprawl, arts, public speaking, etiquette and advocacy.

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.

Bush School of Government and Public Service

The Show's funding supports graduate students within the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University, which is a professional graduate program that educates students on principled leadership in public and international affairs.

Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans

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

Texas FFA Association

National Career Development Event Support

Rodeo funds are used to defray FFA chapter travel expenses for Texas Career Development winners at the National FFA Convention annually.

Leadership Development Events

There are 13 different Leadership Development Events which culminate with state competition being hosted by Sam Houston State University. These events help students demonstrate soft skill attainment through their participation in the FFA.

State Leadership Conference and Area Conferences

The State Leadership Conference provides training for more than 100 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 Hearing Institute

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

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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 Tech University - National Ranching Heritage Center

The National Ranching Heritage Center's Ranch Life Learning Program explains ranch life to children in the Cash Family Ranch Life Learning Center. Show funding supports the presentation materials to provide hands-on agricultural experiences for students and educators at the Center and workshops across Texas.

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 educates both teachers and students.

Theatre Under The Stars

The River Performing and Visual Arts Center (The River)

The River provides an accessible, affordable fine arts education to individuals with disabilities and their siblings by offering a multi-disciplinary arts classes year-round including Saturday Morning Program, Fine Arts Summer Camp, Performance Troupe and Main Stage performance opportunities.

Tommy Tune Awards Program

The Tommy Tune Awards Program celebrates the educational value, artistry and community of high school musical theatre in the Greater Houston Area. Rodeo funds provides a professional musicians for the event.

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.

The University of Houston Clear Lake - Center for Autism and Development Disabilities

The Center for Autism and Development Disabilities provides assessments, therapy, and training services to students and their families. Through the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Academy, the Center provides week-long training for teachers and paraprofessionals to build the skills and practices needed to help their students with autism achieve higher levels of functionality and success.

The University of Texas at Austin – UTeach

The UTeach program at UT Austin addresses the shortage of qualified STEM teachers in Texas. UTeach integrates a rigorous math and/or science major, acquisition of effective teaching techniques, field experience and teaching certification into a four-year program. Show funding supports UTeach Internships for Houston-area students to gain hands-on teaching experience.

UTHealth

The Cizik School of Nursing provides a specialized Veterans' Bachelor of Science in Nursing program 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 and living expenses to veteran students in the program.

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Writers in the Schools

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

Yellowstone Schools

Yellowstone Schools address the issue of limited access to high-quality education and programming for economically underserved PreK-9th grade students in Houston's Greater Third Ward. Yellowstone combines rigorous academics, leadership and character development, dynamic teachers, athletics and social-emotional services to create a nurturing learning environment.

YMCA of Greater Houston

YMCA Houston's Community Outreach STEM enrichment and digital literacy curriculum reaches under-resourced youth through after-school and summer day camp programs at their area Youth Opportunity Centers.

University of Houston Downtown – Bridge Grant for Financial Gaps

The University of Houston Downtown is a community of diverse faculty, staff and students dedicated to nurturing talent, generated knowledge and driving socioeconomic mobility for a just and sustainable future. Rodeo funds support UHD's Bridge Grant for Financial Gaps assistance program for graduating students.

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