



Classroom grants to enhance student learning • Exceptional teachers to staff our classrooms

From the Director

Twenty years ago this October, I accepted the job of Executive Director of the Salina Education Foundation. In 1996, my daughter was a freshman at Salina Central. Today, Kate has her PhD in English/Fiction Writing. One thing I know for certain is that the teachers and staff of Salina Public Schools were vital partners in helping make Kate the young woman she is today. I am so grateful to all of you.



It seems only fitting then that the trustees and I work with our community to provide grants to teachers for creative and innovative projects that would not otherwise be possible. We also work to identify potential teachers. And where better to find them than in our classrooms, where they are seeing great teaching every day? The LIFT (Loan Initiative for Future Teachers) program has supported 27 Saline County students, many of whom are teaching in USD 305 today.

Honoring our current teachers and identifying potential teachers is central to the work that we do. Thank you for helping us, and please continue to support the work of the Salina Education Foundation.

Pam McIntyre, Executive Director



2016 Fall Breakfast

What do photography, architecture, rock and roll, and fight songs have in common? They were all featured at our 11th annual Fall Breakfast, September 20 at the Salina Country Club.

Teachers Deb Robertson and students Tiffany Allen and Daiquan Thompson from Opportunity Now showcased their original photographs that were part of a photography grant provided by the SEF. Students not only learned the principles of photography, they also used special effects to highlight photographs and change them from ordinary to extraor-



inary. Students produced a yearbook loaded with pictures of classmates using the cameras that were purchased with the grant.

Teacher Annette Hays and student Leslie Martinez from Salina West Alternative School explained the amount of work and patience it took to build intricate structures using a \$1,000 grant from the SEF. Students had to follow blueprints precisely,



sometimes starting over several times before getting the structures perfect. Each building was made up of tiny bricks that were hand-cast from plaster molds. Leslie shared that her work helped her focus more and also helped with her anxiety issues. Guests were amazed at the intricate details of the structures.

See BREAKFAST, page 2



Welcome New Trustees

We are thrilled to welcome three new trustees:

Katy Ebert and husband Justin graduated from Salina South where Justin is a social studies teacher and coach. They have a 6 month old daughter, Harper. Katy is an optometrist with Drs. Cooper and Banning.

Dr. Kristy Rodriguez is the Director of Teacher Education at Kansas Wesleyan University. She is a Salina area native and a graduate of Southeast of Saline schools. She and husband Matt have 5 children ranging in age from 16 to 8.

Jeff Norris is a graduate of Salina Central High School and is an attorney with Clark, Mize, and Linville. His wife, Laine (Graham) Norris, is the Dietician and Director of Dining Services at Presbyterian Manor.

The Board of Trustees guides all financial, procedural, and administrative decisions made by the Salina Education Foundation. Thank you Amy Stonebraker and Daran



New Trustees: From left: Kristy, Katy and Jeff

Neuschafer for your 6-year tenures on the board—you will be missed!

Memorial Gifts

We honor the memory of Larry Nelson, Mary Laura Lamb, Maynard Nelson, and Ivan Seifert and thank their families for naming the Salina Education Foundation to receive their memorial gifts.

Larry Nelson was an independent broker for 30 years. His wife Teresa is Stewart Elementary's administrative assistant, and children Jennifer, Joshua, and Jamie all attended Salina Public Schools.

Mary Laura Lamb was a beloved teacher at Schilling Elementary school for many years. Her husband Don and son Jeff were trustees on the Board of Trustees of the SEF. Daughter Katie graduated from Central High School.

Maynard Nelson was a homebuilder and inventor. His wife Charlotte taught gifted education in Salina Public Schools.

Ivan Seifert was a building operator at Schilling Elementary. He retired after serving 16 years with USD 305. His daughter, Lori Radiel, teaches at Stewart Elementary.

Honoring the life, recognizing the work, or celebrating a special occasion of a loved one is a wonderful way to support the work of the SEF. Let us help you: pam.mcintyre@usd305.com, or call 309-4729

Breakfast from page 1

Teacher Darren Brooks and 21 members of the South High Pep Band greeted guests as they arrived. Students performed several songs and ended with their fight song, which had the audience clapping along with the music.

A.J. Dix performed two songs from 305 LIVE. A.J., a recent graduate of Central High, reprised his performance of "Shut Up and Dance" from his 305 LIVE performance. He also sang "Starling," an original song by Nathan Tysen, lead vocalist of Joe's Pet Project. Nathan and his band worked with

middle and high school students to perform the concert May 20, 2016, at The Stiefel Theatre.

Mark your calendars—plans are already in the works for next year's Fall Breakfast September 12, 2017!



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Students Rock The Stiefel Theatre

The SEF was proud to bring back the band *Joe's Pet Project* (Nathan Tysen, Ryan McCall, Lance Gilchrist, John Hobson, and Jason Hammond) to work with middle and high school students who then together put on a full-out rock concert May 25 at the Stiefel Theatre.

In addition to original songs, written in workshop, student musicians performed rock classics from the likes of Paul Simon and Led Zeppelin to current songs from Justin Bieber and Taylor Swift. Students were involved in every aspect of production, which makes 305 LIVE a great example of project-based learning. Teacher Co-chairs Kate Lindsay and Matt Gerry, Orchestra, Karen Chapman, Vocal, Eddie Creer, and Technical, Chad Nulik were critical to students' being prepared to roll out

a rock concert in three days.

The joy of working with great mentors and teachers, performing in a venue which has hosted famous musicians, and collaborating with other USD 305 students makes 305 LIVE a unique event, and one that students will always remember. Stay tuned—the 4th 305 LIVE is scheduled to happen again in 2018!



Business Partners

This spring we will again be asking our businesses to support our work. Our grants focus on project-based learning. Why is that important to businesses? Because businesses need employees who take responsibility, have confidence, can solve problems, work collaboratively,

and communicate ideas—all trademarks of project-based learning.

Would you like to fund a specific grant? We can help partner you with requests that are important to you and your business. Call Pam McIntyre at 309-4729.

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Donor Spotlight: Lou Ann Dunn

Every year, since the Fall Breakfast began 11 years ago, guests are greeted with wonderful decorations that set the mood and theme for the breakfast. We thank Lou Ann Dunn and her staff at **Artful Parties**



Lou Ann Dunn

and Events for donating their creativity in making the Fall Breakfast special. Can't wait to see what you come up with next year: September 12, 2017, 7:00 AM at the Salina Country Club.

Our Mission

To promote and support educational excellence by providing resources to enhance opportunities for the students and staff of Salina's public schools.

As part of this mission, the trustees of the Salina Education Foundation:

Manage and grow endowment funds, grants, and gifts for specific schools, programs, and scholarships

Award grants to teachers seeking to enhance instruction

Identify and support, through forgivable loans, outstanding Saline County residents seeking to become teachers in USD 305

Build community awareness and support of the Salina Education Foundation

Our Vision

Uniting the community to support excellent public schools

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