



SALINA EDUCATION FOUNDATION

community connection

ACHIEVING EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

salinaeducationfoundation.com 785-309-4729

Spring 2016

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

305 LIVE Returns!

We are excited to announce that 305 LIVE will rock the Stiefel Theatre on May 25 at 7:00 PM.

The SEF's collaboration with the Stiefel will give students a unique opportunity to perform where many famous artists have performed. Speaking of famous artists, Salina's very own Nathan Tysen (lyricist for Broadway's *Tuck Everlasting*) and members of the band *Joe's Pet Project* will return to work with middle and high school students.

There will be great raffle items, students performing original songs, Loren Banning emceeing, and talent galore, so mark your calendars:

School of Rock is in Session!

The Stiefel Theatre
May 25

Doors Open at 6 pm
Show Begins at 7 pm

Purchase tickets at all secondary schools, the district board office, Midwest Music, and at the door the night of the concert.



2016 LIFT Recipients



From Left: Kelsey Plummer, Miranda Basinger, Dallas Froome, Trey Cullins, Parker Harris

We are thrilled to introduce 5 new LIFT recipients for 2016!

- **Dallas Froome** is a Sacred Heart graduate who is attending Kansas State University, studying elementary education.
- **Kelsey Plummer** graduated from Rock Creek Jr/Sr High School and is currently a Junior at Kansas Wesleyan, studying to be an elementary school teacher.
- **Miranda Basinger** graduated from Ell-Saline High School and is working as a paraprofessional at Lakewood Middle School while studying for her middle school certification through Ft. Hays State University Virtual College.
- **Parker Harris** is a graduating South High senior who will attend Kansas State University and major in elementary/middle school education with a focus in special education.
- **Trey Cullins** is a graduating Central High senior who will attend Kansas State University and major in secondary English education.

The LIFT recipients, and their passion for becoming teachers were recognized at a reception in their honor on April 12, where they addressed the Board of Education, teachers, and family. Each spoke about the importance of outstanding teachers in their lives, their love of learning, and their passion for becoming teachers and returning to Salina to begin their teaching careers.

The Salina Education Foundation's LIFT (Loan Initiative for Future Teachers) program provides forgivable loans of up to \$5,000 per year to exemplary Saline County students who are studying to become teachers. After hiring, the SEF will forgive \$5,000 for each year a student teaches.

This year, the Salina Education Foundation will have invested \$202,500 in extraordinary students who are studying to become teachers. We know that investment will reap benefits for our students for many years. Congratulations to the 2016 recipients!

From the Chair

When thinking about the Salina Education Foundation, my first thoughts are of children and their smiles. I also think about their parents and loved ones enjoying the extraordinary moments made possible



Roxanne Bell

by SEF. Consider the last USD 305 Board of Education meeting, when five outstanding young men and women took the podium and accepted their Loan Initiative for Future Teachers (LIFT) awards, which will provide them with \$5,000 per year while they are studying to become teachers. Their proud parents and loved ones were sitting in the audience, knowing the promise of tomorrow for these future teachers. How blessed I am to live in a community that understands our children and consistently puts their educational needs first.

I was raised in rural Kansas. My father didn't get more than an eighth grade education. As a result, he didn't take education for granted. Our many dedicated SEF donors don't take education for granted, either. Through their generosity, we are able to provide 21st Century Advantage Grants, which were also awarded at the Board Meeting. These include a Central High School science project to help curious students understand the physics of motion. Another teaches how the assets of our community offer extraordinary opportunities for Coronado third graders.

Learning simple things in daily living

are important but often overlooked by legislative allocators. Children need time to learn basic behaviors at a restaurant: how to act, eat, and socialize properly. Even kindergarteners will be better prepared for real life situations by using math concepts, communicating by writing, and working together to shop for groceries, clean the house, and prepare meals. Teachers observe the children and provide guidance to improve their knowledge and behavior.

And what is more important than helping a child read, listen, and respond appropriately in school? Another 21st Century Grant will help children become lifelong learners by increasing comprehension of difficult text and increasing fluency and vocabulary. This is especially important for children in our at-risk programs.

This is just a sampling of the many important opportunities donors provide. These grants not only provide happy events for children, they also are imperative for developing future citizens who will understand their environment, know how to behave, and know how to communicate with each other.

I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to serve as the Chair of the Salina Education Foundation. I have learned how valuable donations are in education and how important these extra opportunities are for students and families. I have learned to appreciate the boundless energy and spirit of our teachers in giving extra time and effort to our students. And I am thankful for the good days ahead for students in Salina.

Roxanne Bell
Chair, Board of Trustees

Salina Education Foundation 2016-2017 Grants

The SEF is proud to announce the grants for next school year. Our focus is on creative and innovative project-based grants. Why project-based? Students are active, not passive; a project engages their hearts and minds, and provides real-world relevance for learning. Students not only understand content more deeply but also learn how to take responsibility and build confidence, solve problems, work collaboratively, communicate ideas, and be creative innovators.

Outside-the-Box Grants

reward creativity aimed at expanding students' understanding of their community and the world.

Brandon Cheeks, Lakewood – Students will visit the Eisenhower Museum, ride the

Abilene Train, and keep a journal of their experience. In class, they will learn about the importance of the railroad to Kansas's economy and town development in the 1800's.

See 2016-2017 GRANTS, page 3

Scholarship Recipients, 2016-17

Student Scholarships

**James and Helen Maupin
Memorial Scholarship**
Jacob Yarochowicz

Judy Wright Memorial Scholarship
Lexus Burroughs

**Owen E. Hodgson
Memorial Scholarship**
Trevor Hawk
Mary Freelove

Justin Cosco Memorial Scholarship
Holly Taylor

Stephen Cosco Memorial Scholarship
Addison Kindel

Class of 1940 Scholarship
Ashley Sankey

Class of 1933 Scholarship
J.D. McHenry

David H. Jett Memorial Scholarship
Dalton Peters

Destry Allen Memorial Scholarship
Kiaina Garman

Mustang Scholarship
Jetta Greene

JoLyn Bartz Memorial Scholarship
Lindsey Wood

TREA Scholarship
Nicole Budke
Cortney Berndt

**David Antrim "Every Play
Matters" Scholarship**
Michael McMullen

**Nancy Whitehair Ribble Memorial
Scholarship**
Angela Reese

NEA-Salina Educator Scholarship
Lauren Meis
Nikki Chamberlain

Brandon Cheeks, Lakewood – All 270 Lakewood 7th graders will take a field trip to Topeka where they will visit the Brown vs. Board of Education National Historic Site, the Kansas Capitol Building, and the Ritchie House Underground Railroad site. Being able to visit the sites that students study in the classroom will truly bring history to life!

Gina Turner, Meadowlark Ridge – Students will travel to Emporia to meet the authors who win the William Allen White book award for the 2016-17 school year. While in Emporia, students will also visit the White home (Red Rocks), drive past the Emporia Gazette, which White owned, and visit Peter Pan Park, the land White donated to the city of Emporia.



Students visit Emporia

Carla Moore, Katrina Paradis, South and Central High – Students will participate in a Poetry SLAM. Evening workshops with professional poets will allow students to edit and refine their original poems. The students perform two preliminary rounds before a student audience. Five students are selected as judges to score each poem, and the top six participants go on to compete in the final round.

Carla Moore, South High – The Allicatz Outreach Program partners South High students with Sunset Elementary students in providing a unique theater project produced and directed by high school mentors. The six-week program culminates in a performance in the Sunset All-Purpose room.

Matt Gerry, South Middle – Sixth grade general music and 7-8 grade guitar students will travel to Exploration Place to view a national traveling exhibit on the guitar. Exhibits include 100 historical artifacts, the science of pitch and tone, electromagnetism, and amplification. Students will also

perform using the guitars supplied with an SEF grant.

Matt Gerry, South Middle – With its beginning as an SEF grant, hundreds of students have had the opportunity to attend a variety of live shows at the Stiefel Theatre. Students who are interested in attending apply for a ticket by submitting a project about the performer they are applying to see. Students use their creativity by making posters, Powerpoint presentations, and movies to display their knowledge of the performance they hope to attend.

21st Century Advantage Grants
support creative and innovative classroom projects.

Gary Goodwin, Central High – Physics students will use LabQuest 2 technology that interfaces with their Chromebooks to connect probes that will take data during an experiment. The probes will allow students to evaluate and discover relationships from the gathered data. All students will then have the capability to analyze the data on their Chromebooks.

Tammy Moon, Coronado – Coronado 3rd graders will read *The Seven Wonders of Sas-safras Springs*, learn about Salina and some of our important people, places, and events and then choose “The Seven Wonders of Salina.” Students will visit each wonder, tour the facility, meet staff, and create a public service announcement explaining why each location was selected.

Nick Pahls, Nick Neuberger, Coronado – Coronado Board Game Club, started Spring 2015, will receive board games to encourage social interaction and parent involvement that is not tied to technology. Each week, students play two new board games that they have never played before. The Club has partnered with The Village Geek in McPherson, which holds an open board game day that the club attends at no cost to the students.

Kristina Courbot, Meadowlark Ridge – At-risk students will use listening materials during center rotations to develop strategies for students to become life-long learners, to increase comprehension and understanding of text, to increase vocabulary, and to help children progress through difficult texts.

Cari Slothower, Meadowlark Ridge – Students will read books by Julia Cook that take on common childhood problems. The books are written in a way that is fun, non-threatening, and social. Students and teacher

will interact to address common school problems in a non-confrontational way.

Gina Lee, South Middle – Digital Portfolio Project will give students the opportunity to learn the basics of photo composition while sharing their work with a safe audience: teacher, parents, and others. Students are instructed about the impact of posting images online and projects are connected to English classes where students write weekly reflections about their classwork. Using Google sites (compatible with Chromebooks), students create digital portfolios.

Nikki Chamberlain, South High – Chemistry students will use grant funds for three projects:

1. Spectroscopy will allow students to observe tubes of gas and identify what the unknown is. They will learn about excited electrons and how different colors of light are emitted and created.
2. Students will determine the concentration of juices, sodas, and antacids using pH meters and make recommendations based upon their results as to the effect on dental health, and
3. Students will build 3-D molecular models that will allow them to predict the geometry and bond angles in molecules.



Science teachers Goodwin, Cairns, and Chamberlain

Lyric Cairns, South High – Physics students will utilize Vernier equipment probes to measure various quantitative data and use software to display the data. In using this equipment (interfaced with Chromebooks), students will experience physics concepts in real life and gain experience with the latest methods for collecting, interpreting, and displaying data.

Elise Potocnik, Salina West – JAG (Jobs for America's Graduates) emphasizes service learning. Students are required to complete 10 hours of community service every year. In 2016-17, students will learn to sew and crochet quilts, blankets, and scarves, which will be donated to places in need. Students will learn life skills like how to iron, sew on a button, hem pants, and mend clothing items. Collaboration with peers, working toward a common goal, and giving to others is the focus of the project.

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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YES! I want the BEST for all students in the Salina School District! Gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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- \$1000-2999 **SEF Benefactor**
- \$500-999 **SEF Patron**
- \$100-499 **SEF Supporter**
- \$10-99 **SEF Friend**
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