



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

SEF Celebrates 25 Years

Happy Birthday SEF! Twenty-five years ago, on February 9, 1987, the first official meeting of the Salina Education Foundation was held. The bylaws stipulated that all seven school board members serve as trustees, the superintendent and assistant superintendent of business affairs serve as ex-officio members, and the remaining members be chosen from the community. Today, the 16-member board has two representatives from the Board of Education and 14 community members guiding the work of the SEF. The Executive Director and the Superintendent serve ex-officio.



Our 25th birthday is a great time to reflect on some of our accomplishments:

- Awarded over \$500,000 in teacher grants
- Developed the LIFT Program that awards \$5,000 forgivable loans to prospective teachers
- Administered community initiatives like the Central High Tennis Courts and the South High Softball Fields
- Supported hundreds of graduating seniors with scholarships and awards
- Administered specific programs and services for every school in the district (Example: Nurse Vision Fund that works with optometrists to provide eye care for students)

All of these programs are made possible because of you, our donor. Please plan to attend our annual Fall Breakfast on August 28. We are planning a birthday celebration, and it wouldn't be a party without you!

Meet the 2012 LIFT Recipients

We are pleased to introduce three new LIFT (Loan Initiative for Future Teachers) Recipients!

Samantha McCary graduated from South High School in 2010 where she was active in Lab Chicks and worked at Lakewood Discovery Center. Sam is a sophomore at the University of Kansas, majoring in Middle Level Mathematics Education. She is very active in the "Best Buddies" organization that pairs college students with students with disabilities. She will be the College Buddy Director next year. Her ultimate goal, to be a special education teacher, became clear when she worked as an aide in Mrs. Jenni Showman's class where she felt "at ease and calm working with students with disabilities." Samantha's goal is to get a Master's in Special Education.



Samantha McCary

Lauren Meis, a 2011 South High graduate, is a freshman at Kansas State University where she is the featured twirler for the Kansas State Marching Band. In high school, Lauren was active in Big Brothers, Big Sisters, taught private baton twirling lessons (she continues to come home to teach every



Lauren Meis

Monday evening), and served as a teacher's aide in her high school chemistry class. Because of her love of mathematics and ability to explain math concepts in a way that others can understand, she wants to teach mathematics. Her eventual goal is to obtain a Master's degree in school counseling because, "I want to have an impact, not only by teaching students the basic subjects but also by giving them support and motivation to be the best they can be."

Jessica Steele will graduate from South High School this spring and attend Kansas State University this fall. During high school, in addition to excelling academically, Jessica participated in track all four years (shot put, discus, and javelin). She volunteered for the Salina Track and Field Club and loved "teaching kids a brand new sport, making them work hard to grow, and celebrating their success." Jessica plans to major in Elementary Education with an emphasis in Special Education and a minor in English as a Second Language. She has worked in special education classrooms and has learned that "Working with children with special needs has helped me to discover my passion for teaching."



Jessica Steele

Congratulations to these three remarkable young women!



Photo by Carly Reichert

Joe's Pet Project Rocks!

The SEF is collaborating with five Salina South High grads to bring a rock concert to USD 305. *Joe's Pet Project*, formed more than a decade ago, consists of Nathan Tysen, vocals and guitar; Ryan McCall, piano and vocals; Lance Gilchrist, drums and vocals; John Hobson, guitar; and Jason Hammond, bass.

The band, whose members live in different cities most of the year, gather periodically to play in Salina and the surrounding area. They headlined the Friday night street dance at the 2011 Smoky Hill River Festival and recently performed at Ad Astra Coffee and Book Store.

The band plans an album release this summer. The album will contain a mixture of their most popular original songs, some new material, and unique cover versions of classic rock songs.

The group has written for outside projects, ranging from the Broadway stage to *Sesame Street*.

Tysen has written lyrics for two stage musicals with his longtime writing partner, composer Chris Miller. Their first musical, "The Burnt Part Boys," had a critically acclaimed Off-Broadway run in 2010. A new

musical, "Tuck Everlasting," based on the popular children's book, is being readied for a Broadway opening in March 2013.

Keyboardist McCall and Tysen wrote a children's musical, "Noah's Ark," which was staged in 2003 at Tysen and McCall's alma mater, Salina South High School. The play recently completed a successful run at the University of Kansas.

The band will work with students in music and theater classes to perform a two-hour concert on October 13, 2012, in Central High School's auditorium. Students will be involved in every aspect of the concert, including original song-writing. The band's enthusiasm for Salina and the public schools that educated them makes this project one that the SEF is proud to bring to our students and community. Mark your calendars, on October 13, students will rock!

Thank you to Gary Demuth, Salina Journal, for some content.

2012 Scholarship Recipients Named

The SEF is pleased to announce the scholarship recipients for 2012. They will be recognized at their school's awards night (Central High-April 26; South High-April 30). We congratulate these outstanding students and wish them success in their college careers.

At the time of printing, the NEA Scholarship, the Jo Musselwhite Scholarship, and the Nancy Whitehair Ribble Scholarship had not been awarded. For more information about SEF scholarships and all application forms, go to: www.salinaeducationfoundation.com

Ronald F. Feitel, Jr. Memorial Scholarship	Blake Michaud, Central High
David Jett Memorial Scholarship	William A. Reid, Central High
Mustang Scholarship	Brenton Hilbig, Central High
Owen E. Hodgson Memorial Scholarship	Tionna Trarbach, Central High Amanda Merrick, South High
Class of 1940 Scholarship	Alex Furst, Central High
Class of 1933 Scholarship	Casey Leister, Central High
Destry Allen Memorial Scholarship	Max Wellbrock-Talley, Central High
Justin Cosco Memorial Scholarship	Tionna Trarbach, Central High
Stephen Cosco Memorial Scholarship	Andrew Fontes, Central High
Judy Wright Memorial Scholarship	Alyssa Ferguson, South High
James Maupin Memorial Scholarship	Brady Munsch, South High

2012-2013 Grants

Musician, scientist, and architect are just three of the professions our students will explore this fall. Take a look at the great projects kids will be doing next year, thanks to your support of the SEF's Grant Programs!

21st Century Advantage Grant Recipients

Jennifer Chlumsky, Coronado

Elementary music students will have 5 new Bass Bars which will complete the classroom set of instruments. Students

will learn to read, notate, and compose a variety of quality rhythms, melodies, and accompaniments as well as execute musical expressions like crescendo, decrescendo, staccato, etc.

Stephanie Martin, Coronado Second and fifth grade students will learn how to "Eat Smart and Play Hard" by logging activity and food choices. Students that complete the log will receive a pedometer to use as they increase daily activity. Students will learn about nutritious foods by creating posters, cooking together, and compiling a recipe book.

Patti Flenthrope, Cottonwood Preschool children and their parents will participate in "Game Night," which encourages parents to turn off the television and play board games with their children. Parents hear a presentation of the benefits of playing with their children (increasing math and language development, fine motor skills, and social skills, to name a few) and then play a game with their family. Each family that participates takes home one Memory and one board game.

Shelly Parks, Heartland Preschool children will become investigative

scientists. By providing naturally curious children with science materials that create opportunities for investigation and in-depth study, teachers will help students learn how to observe, predict, and summarize what they discover.

Roxanne Bell, Heartland Twenty-five families will learn the importance of eating together as a family and how to prepare healthy, thrifty meals. Current research finds that families who eat together often have children who make better grades in school, have fewer absences, and are less likely to be involved in criminal or anti-social activities.

Jane Koch, Meadowlark Ridge Elementary students will have 14 new drums in their classroom this fall. Students will learn about various world cultures and music, work on performances, and have the opportunity to participate in an after or before school drum circle.

Margie Carrier, Schilling Second grade students will build math skills by using fun, hands-on activities that target key math concepts like measurement, addition, and subtraction as well as telling time and understanding money. These activities build on math concepts and allow students to work independently to solve math problems.

Nancy Bauer, Schilling Music students will receive drums to complete a classroom set that the SEF funded in part last year. Students will practice music-reading skills, work as a team, and learn about music from around the world. Musicians will share their drumming skills and experiences with the children.

Anne Abel, Schilling Fourth grade students will read great non-fiction books that supplements their textbook. Students will partner with each other to learn more about a theme they are studying. For example, students studying "Plants" will have the opportunity to learn about the work of George Washington Carver.

Cathy Yarołowicz, South High Physical education students will test their heart rates at rest and during physical activity with 10 new InstaPulse Monitors. Students will measure and graph their cardiac activity while participating in exercise and during the "cool down" period. The goal is to help students understand the importance of physical activity and heart health.

Kim Curtis, Gifted Facilitator Students will experiment with proportion,

symmetry, and scale in architecture. They will explore some of the world's most famous structures like the Chrysler Building and the Sydney Opera House and then design their own 3-D floor plans. Using observation, reasoning and critical thinking, they will team with each other to plan and design functional living spaces.

Ashley Gilpin, Gifted Facilitator Students will increase comprehension, critical thinking, vocabulary, and writing skills using the Junior Great Books Program. By providing quality reading materials for students in grades 2-5, teachers will work with students on their expository writing skills and teach the importance of sharing ideas in a collaborative atmosphere.

Outside-the-Box Grant Recipients

Janice Ostrom, Instructional Media Middle and high school students have an opportunity to hear author Ben Mikaelson, whose unique experiences such as raising a 750-pound black bear, living with the homeless, and working with dolphins make his writing appealing to students. This will be the first author visit for secondary students, and librarians are excited to bring this opportunity to their students.

Tammy Moon, Emily Komarek, and Lois Newcomer, Coronado Third graders will read "The Seven Wonders of Sassafras Springs" and then learn about Salina and choose what they consider to be "The Seven Wonders of Salina." The students will visit the seven wonders they have chosen, create a public service announcement explaining why each location was selected, tour the facility, and meet the staff. South High multimedia students will help to create the PSA.

Matthew Gerry, South Middle Partnering again with The Stiefel Theatre, students will have the opportunity to attend "Concert Night with Mr. G." The goal of the project is to expose students to different musical styles, have them research these styles and performers, and attend a live music performance. Last year, students attended sound checks and even met with artists to ask questions, get autographs, and pose for pictures.

Lyric Cairns, South High Philips Lighting supports this grant for the SHS Robotics Club to participate in the BEST Robotics program and competition. All schools receive the same robotics kit that students

use to create a robot designed to perform specific tasks in the competition held in November. Students have a brief window (about 6 weeks) in order to construct the robot. They also put together a marketing plan and multimedia presentation to "sell" their robot to the judges. The club collaborates with students in marketing, business, art, and even culinary classes in order to prepare their presentation.

Nikki Chamberlain, South High Philips Lighting supports "Lab Chicks" for students who want to share their love of science. Students do a reading program with K-1st grade students called "The Quirkles" and host Girls in the Lab Day every school year (this year 175 girls in grades 4-8 participated). The group also travels to Coronado and Heusner to build rockets. The goal of the club is to encourage young women to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and to instill a love for science in elementary and middle school girls.

Deb Christie, Sunset Transportation will be provided for Oakdale, Schilling, Sunset, and Cottonwood students so that they can participate in Kansas Kids Fitness Day, an annual event sponsored by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The day is hosted at 40 sites across Kansas on the first Friday in May. Salina has been one of the host sites for more than a decade. Children rotate through different stations that provide information, demonstrations, and activities. Third graders from USD 305, Ell-Saline, Lindsborg, and Southeast of Saline participate.

Sudden Opportunity Grants:

The SEF will double funding on these quick turnaround grants for the 2012-2013 school year.



Third Grade Seven Wonders: Coronado 3rd graders visit Kenwood Cove, one of Salina's Seven Wonders

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 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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2012-2013 Grants from page 3



Family Game Night: Cottonwood families play board games together during "Game Night."



Science Geeks: A Sudden Opportunity Grant made the Heusner Science Geek Club possible this year.

Help Make A Difference. **JOIN SEF TODAY!**



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

- \$3000 or more **21st Century Club**
- \$1000-2999 **SEF Benefactor**
- \$500-999 **SEF Patron**
- \$100-499 **SEF Supporter**
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PO Box 797
Salina, KS 67402-0797



Salina Education Foundation

Our Kids - Our Future

Thank you to our business partners who have made a commitment to making USD 305 Schools exceptional by supporting the work of the Salina Education Foundation. When you support them, you support the work of the SEF!

SEF Grants and Programs

21st Century Advantage Grant: awarded annually for creative and innovative classroom projects

Sudden Opportunity Grant: quick turn-around grant for projects that come up unexpectedly

LIFT Program: awards up to \$5,000 per year for Saline County residents who wish to become teachers

Outside-the-Box Grant: awarded annually for projects that take students outside the typical classroom setting

Donations from 7/01/2011-4/09/2012

21st Century Club - \$3,000 +

Great Plains Manufacturing, Inc.
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Salina Regional Health Foundation
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Benefactor - \$1000-\$2999

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