



"Fostering Educated and Involved Texans"™

10200 Alta Vista Road, Keller, TX 76244 ★ 817-562-4957 ★ www.educationinaction.org

Education in Action is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to empowering young Texans to be informed and active leaders in their communities.

Spring 2010 Newsletter

From the Founders

2010 is well underway and exciting things are happening at Education in Action. Fifty-six young Texas leaders participated in spring break Lone Star Leadership Academy programs, 127 Lone Star Youth Leadership Council members created and led service projects in their communities, and approximately 8,000 Texas students, parents, and educators will have participated in one of Education in Action's 80 2009-2010 Experiential Learning Day Programs by the end of this school year. In addition, we have many program updates to share with you.

Lone Star Leadership Academy

Spring break programs are back! Lone Star Leadership Academy programs are now offered during spring break in addition to summer to provide young Texas leaders with additional opportunities to experience Texas while developing their leadership skills.

Starting in 2011, Lone Star Leadership Academy programs will be open to 4th grade students.

To date, these programs have only been open to 5th-8th graders. As of spring break 2011, 4th-6th graders will be eligible to participate in Dallas/Fort Worth programs, 5th-7th graders will be eligible to participate in Austin programs, and 6th-8th graders will be eligible to participate in Houston/Galveston programs. We look forward to the opportunity to work with this new group of outstanding Texas students on Lone Star Leadership Academy programs!

Lone Star Youth Leadership Council

Check out Education in Action's [2009-2010 Lone Star Youth Leadership Council Newsletter](#) to see how Lone Star Leadership Academy graduates are exercising leadership skills in their communities as members of this alumni group. The 127 2009-2010 student members were recognized at Education in Action's Texas Independence Day Service Project Presentation and Recognition Ceremony for creating and leading service projects across the state. Keynote speaker, **The Honorable Wendy Davis, Texas State Senator, District 10**, encouraged the honorees to continue their active involvement as leaders serving their communities. In addition to presenting their projects, the 29 attending members had the opportunity to visit one on one with Senator Davis about the service work they are doing. Education in Action applauds these young leaders' accomplishments!

Experiential Learning Day Programs

Through Education in Action's Experiential Learning Day Programs, hundreds of Dallas/Fort Worth area teachers have taken their classrooms on the road to experience significant Texas sites over the past several years. **Starting with the 2010-2011 school year, these program offerings will be expanded to educators and their students across north Texas, from the Red River to Waco.** If you are a 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade educator in this region and would like to supplement classroom learning through educational travel, let Education in Action handle the details for you. To schedule a program, contact Stacy Rountree, School Programs Director, at srountree@educationinaction.org or 817-562-4957. A complete list of programs is available on page six.

Thank you to the outstanding Texas students and educators that participate in Education in Action's experiential learning and leadership development programs. We appreciate the opportunity to serve Texas students as we continue to fulfill our mission, **to empower young Texans to be informed and active leaders in their communities.**

Jennifer Pasteur
Executive Director & Founder

Monica Hayes,
Educational Outreach Director & Founder



Lone Star Leadership Academy - Dallas/Fort Worth participants at Cowboys Stadium, Spring Break 2010.



Lone Star Leadership Academy - Austin participants at the Texas State Capitol, Spring Break 2010.

"I would like to thank you and all of the facilitators for offering and running such a fine program for our children. It was a pretty special feeling when I picked up my son on Friday and he informed me, 'It wasn't just fun. It was the greatest experience EVER. I have so much confidence in myself now. I really do believe I can do anything. Really.' I am so pleased that my son was able to walk away from the Lone Star Leadership Academy not just with new knowledge and education, but with such an appreciation for the opportunity to learn and grow as well as a new confidence. Ryan continues to share his adventures and stories with the family. Again, you all did such a fine job."

*Sincerest thanks,
Tammy Bird, The Woodlands, TX*



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Lone Star Youth Leadership Council, Alumni Program



Purpose

Lone Star Leadership Academy alumni are invited to participate in Education in Action's alumni organization, the Lone Star Youth Leadership Council, to continue their leadership development during the school year. The alumni program provides members with opportunities to exercise their leadership skills by requiring them to create and implement service projects in their schools or communities. Online lessons throughout the school year include leadership skill-building activities to assist the students with their service projects. Members are also invited to return to Lone Star Leadership Academy programs in a leadership role as Youth Facilitators.

2009-2010 Lone Star Youth Leadership Council

An unprecedented 127 outstanding young Texans successfully completed the 2009-2010 Lone Star Youth Leadership Council program. These students were recognized on February 27, 2010 at Education in Action's 8th Annual Texas Independence Day Service Project Presentation and Recognition Ceremony.

A 2009-2010 Lone Star Youth Leadership Council newsletter highlighting these students' accomplishments is available online by clicking on the box below. It includes the name of each honoree, their school and district, a description of their service project and the name of their project sponsor. Great work Council!

[2009-2010 Lone Star Youth Leadership Council Newsletter](#)



Lone Star Youth Leadership Council members at Education in Action's 8th Annual Texas Independence Day Service Project Presentation and Recognition Ceremony, February 27, 2010.

Summer 2010 Youth Facilitators

This summer 38 Lone Star Youth Leadership Council members will return on Lone Star Leadership Academy programs as Youth Facilitators. These students will serve as mentors for summer 2010 Lone Star Leadership Academy participants and assist the program Facilitators. In order to serve as a Youth Facilitator, students must have successfully completed two years on the Lone Star Youth Leadership Council. Education in Action looks forward to working with the following summer 2010 Youth Facilitators.

Summer 2010 Youth Facilitators

(2009-2010 Grade Levels Listed)

7th Graders

Truman Dowdy, Tomball ISD
Matthew Klein, Allen ISD
Sharon Li, Pearland ISD
Tucker May, Spring Branch ISD
Sarah Meidel, Conroe ISD
Atul Nayak, Katy ISD
Jennifer Pearson, Valley Mills ISD
Mikey Ramirez, Sharyland ISD
Jake Williamson, Northwest ISD
Nick Winfield, Clear Creek ISD

8th Graders

Mikayla Ballew, Ector County ISD
Maddie Bitting, Eanes ISD
Sarah Lanford, Spring Branch ISD
Shelby Larsen, Georgetown ISD
Kirby Lorig, Lewisville ISD
Kendall Palmer, Clear Creek ISD
Zoe Punske, Round Rock ISD
Grace Robertson, Eanes ISD
Sharon Yang, Pearland ISD

9th Graders

Jackson de Jong, South Texas ISD
Maya Kirkland, Plano ISD
Grace Li, Pearland ISD
Georgia Neitzey, Pearland ISD
Andrea Shaver, Frisco ISD
Troy Thienpont, Northside ISD
Alanna Winfield, Clear Creek ISD
Jesse Woodall,
St. Thomas' Episcopal School

10th Graders

Charles Bimler, North East ISD
Courtney Cundall, Westlake Academy
Thad Douglass, Holliday ISD
Shannon Kahlden, Brazos ISD
Jenelle Milam, Grand Saline ISD
Shannon O'Brian, Paris ISD
Michael Roohy, Plano ISD
D.J. Simpson, San Angelo ISD
Jeff Trimmer, Grapevine-Colleyville ISD

11th Graders

Jacob Spangler,
Grapevine-Colleyville ISD

12th Graders

Lindsey Morrison,
Grand Prairie ISD

Grace Li, Youth Council member, receives Youth Service America's highest honor

Grace Li, a fourth-year Lone Star Youth Leadership Council member, was selected by [Youth Service America](#) to receive its highest award, [The Harris Wofford Youth Award](#). The Harris Wofford Award carries significant prestige since it recognizes one of our nation's greatest public servants. This award was created to honor Senator Wofford's work in *making service and service-learning the common expectation and common experience of every young person in America*. Grace received the award for the work she has done with We Care Act, an organization she co-founded for her Lone Star Youth Leadership Council service project. *"The mission of We Care Act includes helping young disaster victims to recover and engaging youth around the world to help others in need. The organization has helped earthquake victims in Sichuan, China, hurricane victims in Galveston, Texas, and poor students in a remote mountain area in Hunan, China, and raised funds for autism research. This organization has recruited more than 24 groups around the world, including youth and children from China, Canada, Singapore, and the USA,"* Grace stated.



Grace Li accepts the 2010 Harris Wofford Award for Youth.

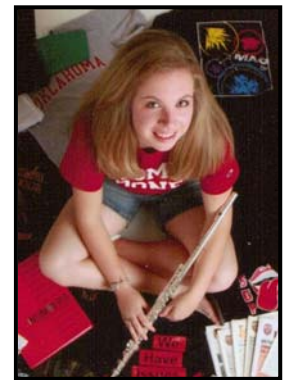
Grace traveled with her family to Washington, D.C. the week of April 22, 2010 to receive her award. According to Grace's mother, **Dr. Shixia Huang**, *"Grace had a great time receiving the award and meeting Senator Wofford and others. She gave a five-minute speech and was told later by many attendees of the ceremony, that her speech was great and inspirational. In fact, the organizer for Youth Service Institute (of Youth Service America), an annual conference for over 200 teachers and other people, approached Grace at the end of her speech and invited her as a keynote speaker for their conference in October."* Education in Action congratulates Grace on this notable accomplishment.

Congratulations graduating seniors Britt Brandon and Lindsey Morrison

Education in Action congratulates the Lone Star Youth Leadership Council's two graduating seniors: **Britt Brandon**, a senior at Hyde Park Baptist School in Austin and **Lindsey Morrison**, a senior at South Grand Prairie High School in Grand Prairie ISD. These two outstanding young leaders each participated in the Lone Star Leadership Academy – Austin and Houston/Galveston programs. Then each went on to successfully complete six years on the Lone Star Youth Leadership Council where they created and led service projects in their schools and communities each of the six years. In addition, each returned on Lone Star Leadership Academy programs to serve as mentors to younger students as Youth Facilitators. Britt plans to attend the University of Texas at Austin and Lindsey plans to attend the University of Oklahoma. It has been an honor to have these two students participate in Education in Action's programs and we wish them both the very best for their very bright futures!



Britt Brandon, Sixth-Year Lone Star Youth Leadership Council Member



Lindsey Morrison Sixth-Year Lone Star Youth Leadership Council Member

From the Parents

"I believe it is your leadership program that led her to believe she was a leader at 5th grade, and developed her into who she is today. I am truly grateful for the opportunities she has had with your programs. The over-the-year alumni program is the best and the service project requirement truly helps kids to think and develop themselves. You guys are truly making a difference in children and families' lives all over Texas and across the globe, since many of these kids are making an impact on kids in other states and other countries as well."

~ Dr. Shixia Huang, Manvel, TX

Dr. Huang is the mother of Grace Li and Sharon Li, fourth-year and second-year Lone Star Youth Leadership Council members, respectively.

"It's been such a wonderful experience for Britt with Education in Action. Can't thank you enough for the part you have played in making my son grow in his leadership and move into his world! Your organization is a hands-on experience of principled leadership that makes a difference. Thank you from this mom whose son is forever marked because of your great dedication and leadership in helping mold the future of our communities and cities. My gratitude for a job well done!"

~ Bev Brandon, Austin, TX

Mrs. Brandon is the mother of Britt Brandon, sixth-year Lone Star Youth Leadership Council member.



Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Community Outdoor Outreach Program (COOP) Grant Awarded to Education in Action

Thank you to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for selecting the Lone Star Leadership Academy program to receive a 2009 Community Outdoor Outreach Program grant. The grant is being used to assist with funding for 2010 Lone Star Leadership Academy programs.

Texas State Historical Association (TSHA) Essay Contest winner announced



Education in Action proudly sponsored the TSHA's Annual Junior Historian Writing Contest again this year. Each year, Education in Action awards a full scholarship to attend the Lone Star Leadership Academy for the winner of the Lone Star Leadership in History essay category. The TSHA announced the 2010 winner, **Phillip Gonzalez**, a 7th grade student at Hopewell Middle School in Round Rock ISD, at the Junior Historians of Texas 2010 Annual Meeting and History Fair in Austin on March 27th. Phillip's paper, "A.W. Grimes: A Texas Legend Forgotten", presented the story of Texas Ranger and Williamson County Deputy Sheriff A.W. Grimes and suggested that roads, parks, and other facilities in the Round Rock area should have been named for him, instead of outlaw Sam Bass who actually killed

A.W. Grimes in a gunfight. Phillip stated that the recent naming of a new road in Round Rock, Texas after A.W. Grimes "is a start to right this wrong." Phillip is using his full scholarship to participate in the Lone Star Leadership Academy – Austin program. Congratulations, Phillip!

Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented (TAGT)

Thank you, TAGT, for awarding scholarships for gifted and talented students to participate in the Lone Star Leadership Academy again this year. TAGT Summer Scholarships are designed for gifted and talented students who wish to attend academic or artistic programs during the summer months. Congratulations to the ten 2010 TAGT Summer Scholarship recipients that will be attending the Lone Star Leadership Academy:



Abbie Burnett, Cotton Center ISD; **Makasha Copeland**, Marble Falls ISD; **Christina Dias**, Allen ISD; **Benjamin Guffey**, Allen ISD; **Antoine Henderson**, Randolph Field ISD; **Angela Pascarella**, Harper ISD; **William Stone**, Carroll ISD; **Joshua Tabeb**, Randolph Field ISD; **Kameren Williams**, Socorro ISD; and **Sharon Yang**, Pearland ISD. We look forward to your participation in 2010 Lone Star Leadership Academy programs.

Additional scholarship opportunities

Thank you to the many individuals and organizations that sponsor and/or provide scholarships for outstanding young Texans to participate in Lone Star Leadership Academy programs. If you know of a scholarship resource for future Lone Star Leadership Academy participants in your district, please contact Education in Action. Education in Action posts scholarship opportunities online at www.educationinaction.org.

Education in Action presents programs to Texas Social Studies Supervisors



Education in Action thanks **Mr. Kip Harmon**, President-Elect, Texas Social Studies Supervisors Association (TSSSA), for providing Education in Action with the opportunity to present program information to the 140 social studies supervisors that attended the TSSSA spring conference March 25th–26th in Austin. "It was great to see so many familiar faces and to share information about Education in Action's mission and program offerings with those curriculum directors not yet familiar with the educational opportunities we offer for their students," stated **Monica Hayes**, Education in Action's Educational Outreach Director.

Education in Action welcomes new team member



Marilyn Galegher, Executive Assistant

Marilyn Galegher, Education in Action's Executive Assistant, received a Bachelor of Science in Health Promotion and Fitness from the University of Texas at Austin in 1999. She recently moved back to Texas after living in Maryland for several years, where she worked for a small business as an Administrative Assistant. Marilyn's responsibilities include managing accounts payable, making program reservations, and assisting the Executive Director. The mother of two young boys, Marilyn is excited to work with Education in Action and to contribute to the potential of Texas' future leaders. To contact Marilyn, e-mail mgalegher@educationinaction.org.

Summer 2010 Lone Star Leadership Academy staff

Lone Star Leadership Academy programs are staffed by educators from across the state. Each program's staff includes a Director, an Assistant Director, and one Facilitator for every ten students. All Lone Star Leadership Academy Facilitators are Texas educators. Summer 2010 Lone Star Leadership Academy Directors, Assistant Directors, and Facilitators include:

Dick Attaway, Coppell ISD
Jennifer Bell, Mansfield ISD
Lauren Bergvall, Midlothian ISD
Kelsa Blair, Joshua ISD
James Briggs, Birdville ISD
Rick Bronson, Northeast ISD
Jim Copeland, Tyler ISD
Amanda Coward, Fort Worth ISD
Angela Dennis, Beeville ISD
Jeff Dickeson, Grapevine-Colleyville ISD
Dede Dietzmann, Frisco ISD
Keith Earley, Fort Worth ISD
Kristi Enyart, Irving ISD
Alexis Ferdinansen, Lake Dallas ISD
Angela Ferguson, Fort Worth ISD
Alan Fischer, Grand Prairie ISD
Linda Fischer, Mineral Wells ISD
Kimberly Fuller, Breckenridge ISD
Heather Gamblin, Mineral Wells ISD
Clint Gebhardt, Allen ISD
Beth Gensheimer, Coppell ISD
Vanessa Hamm, Euless, TX

Ashley Harmonson, Arlington ISD
Joe Harmonson, Arlington ISD
Rebecca Hickman, Keller ISD
Kristen Hurdle, Keller ISD
Laura Isreal, Keller ISD
Claudia Johnson-Curtis, Duncanville ISD
John Kennedy, Dallas ISD
Kristi Key, Coppell ISD
Kyle Kinder, Irving ISD
Jennifer Kranzberg, Keller ISD
Samantha LaHue, Birdville ISD
Blake Lindsey, Mansfield ISD
Kim McKinley, Fort Worth ISD
Billy Mitchell, Azle ISD
Happy Modisette, Burleson ISD
Richard Murphy, Lewisville ISD
Leanna Nash, Plano ISD
Ann Niedwiecki, Mesquite ISD
Chad Nuetzmann, Channelview ISD
Arianne Patty, Fort Worth, Grand Prairie & Mesquite ISDs
Christopher Perkins, Alief ISD

Katherine Powers, Carroll ISD
Robin Primrose, Fort Worth ISD
Jennifer Riley, Crowley ISD
Kristin Roberts, Mesquite ISD
James Romanowski, Conroe ISD
Ashley Rountree, Mansfield, TX
Heather Rountree, Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD
Stephanie Ryon, Coppell ISD
Raff Saeed, Galena Park ISD
Sheryl Saeed, Sheldon ISD
Rodney Shepherd, Lancaster ISD
Elizabeth Soslow, Richardson ISD
Melanie Speed, Irving ISD
Rex Stephenson, San Angelo ISD
Terri Stout, Plano ISD
Holly Megan Thompson, Birdville ISD
Wendy Ulrich, Anna ISD
Craig Utley, City View ISD
Jeremy Wells, Keller ISD
Rafael Williams, Coppell ISD
Jared Witt, Haslet, TX
Marsha Wolfe, Dallas, TX

Education in Action's Board of Texas Educators continues to grow

Members of Education in Action's Board of Texas Educators serve as liaisons between Education in Action and Texas schools. Members make information about Education in Action's programs available to students, parents, and other educators in their districts, including nominating their outstanding students for participation in the Lone Star Leadership Academy, because they understand the benefits students receive by participating in experiential learning and leadership development programs. If you are an educator and would like to join, contact Education in Action. Each member receives an annual Certificate of Participation once they have nominated 10 outstanding students. For a complete listing of all Board of Educators members, visit www.educationinaction.org. Education in Action welcomes the following new Board of Educators members.

Jennifer Adams, Randolph Elem. & MS, Randolph Field ISD
Laurel Bartlett, Godley MS, Godley ISD
Jennae Bradley, Creek Valley MS, Lewisville ISD
Mary Ellen Bryant, Barbara Bush Elem., Conroe ISD
Sharon Cooper, Crockett MS, Amarillo ISD
Eric Enriquez, Saucedo MS, Donna ISD
John Gillis, Pioneer Heritage MS, Frisco ISD
Lisa Hamilton, Dallas Environmental Science Academy, Dallas ISD
Merita Head, Travis JH, Paris ISD
Sara Jones, Ferris JH, Ferris ISD
Tracey Majek, Flour Bluff Int., Flower Bluff ISD
Linda Marshall, The Meadows Elem., DeSoto ISD

Debra McGehee, Wink Elem., Wink-Loving ISD
Larita Merritt, Stovall MS, Aldine ISD
Alicia Mitchell, Wolfe City Elem., Wolfe City ISD
Sonia Padilla, Ortiz Elem., Brownsville ISD
Alta Carol Parks, Bonnette JH, Deer Park ISD
Desirie Ries, Hawley Elem., Hawley ISD
Lynda Rodriguez, Perkins MS, Brownsville ISD
Elizabeth Stephenson, Sweeny JH, Sweeny ISD
Christy Thornsberry, Nash Int., Kaufman ISD
Megan Whitford, Red Oak JH, Red Oak ISD
Sonia Wolfrom, Mitchell Int., Conroe ISD
Pat Yulie, Pine Tree JH, Pine Tree ISD

The Inside Scoop...

New sites have been added to Lone Star Leadership Academy programs for 2010. The Dallas/Fort Worth program now includes a tour of the new Cowboys Stadium and a visit to the newly reopened Fort Worth Museum of Science and History and Noble Planetarium. On the Austin program students now visit the Texas Memorial Museum to explore the unique natural and cultural heritage of our great state.



3rd-5th grade North Central Texas area educators:

Schedule now to take your 2010-2011 classrooms on the road for a day!

Educators, take your classrooms on the road and let Education in Action do all the work. During Education in Action's TEKS-based Experiential Learning Day Programs, students experience what they are learning in the classroom during visits to significant Texas sites in Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth, or Waco/Georgetown. Education in Action handles all details including round-trip charter bus transportation from your school, program curriculum, and much more. Day programs are available for 3rd-5th grade classes across North Central Texas. **An informational brochure is available at [Day Program Brochure](#).** Education in Action is now scheduling programs for the 2010-2011 school year. For more information or to request a program date for your school, visit www.educationinaction.org or contact Stacy Rountree, School Programs Director, at 817-562-4957, extension 103 or sroutree@educationinaction.org.

Experiential Learning Day Programs



4th Grade Social Studies or 3rd Grade E/LA/R

"Trails, Rails and Cowtown Tales" participants travel to the Fort Worth Cultural District and the Fort Worth Stockyards to discover first-hand how Fort Worth developed its "Cowtown" identity. Participants then enjoy a ride on a vintage steam train along the famous Chisholm Trail.



4th Grade Social Studies

"Proud to be Texan" participants travel to Austin to explore the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum and the Texas State Capitol. Students learn about Texas history and government with a focus on early explorers, the Texas Revolution, and the legislative process.



5th Grade Science

Education in Action's **"Water Rocks"** program takes student scientists to the Cameron Park Zoo's Brazos River Country exhibit in Waco and Inner Space Cavern in Georgetown. Participants investigate the water cycle and wetland ecosystems, as well as the physical properties of minerals, rocks, and soils.



5th Grade Social Studies

"A Little Washington in Big D" participants explore the three branches of government, Dallas style! Students participate in a mock trial, write a bill, visit the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and explore the life and legacy of John F. Kennedy at the Sixth Floor Museum.

5th Grade Science Program Highlight – "Water Rocks"

Education in Action's "Water Rocks" one day travel program provides fifth grade students with hands-on opportunities to understand concepts tested on the 5th grade science TAKS test. In addition to learning about habitats and ecosystems during a tour of the Brazos River Country exhibit at the Cameron Park Zoo in Waco and touring Inner Space Cavern in Georgetown, students actively participate in a variety of activities throughout the day including those pictured below.



'Rock Detectives' identify and classify rocks and minerals.



Students see humans' impact on water quality with a Watershed Model.



The Web of Life activity demonstrates the interconnectedness of all living things.



Participants learn about vermicomposting with live worms on the charter bus to Waco.



Participants visualize how wetlands, like a sponge, filter pollutants out of our water.

***"Thank you so very much for all that you did to make our trip a huge success filled with enrichment, knowledge, and fun!"
- Michael Mango, "Water Rocks" Coordinating Teacher, Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD***