## THE SOUTHSIDE WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2012 sacommunites.com

## King William **Association** awards grants totaling \$82,247

By Mark D. Wilson

The King William Association has awarded a total of \$82,247 in grants to neighborhood programs and organization in the South Side.

The awards are funded by the annual King William Fair Fiesta event, and contribute to fine arts programs, neighborhood schools and youth in the community.

Nine organizations and programs received a grant this year. Some are continued or matching grants to programs the King William Association has funded for a number of years.

Beth Davis, King William Association grants program manager, said the grants are offered

annually.

Applicants - who number between 15 and 20 are subject to a rigorous screening process before receiving funding.

Those who don't make the cut are given feedback on how to better their chances of success in the next year.

She said the grants go to fine arts programs, including writing, visual arts and theater.

This year's grant recipients include:

- Say Si, Working Artists and Mentors: \$15,000.
- Bonham Academy PTA, ArtSmart, providing arts education for elementary: \$15,000.
- Gemini Ink, Brackenridge High School

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King William Association recently awarded \$82,247 in grant funding to nine neighborhood organizations and programs, including the Bonham Academy on South St. Mary's Street.

By Mark D. Wil

The secon Antonio IDE School came headed to the and and is s open in fall

The new which has ye named — wi an eight-acr on the corne Flores Street Harding Bou

Idea Publi are open-em tion-free pub schools for g dergarten-12

The 59,00 foot campus 32 classroom ence labs, so hybrid learni and a library

Vanessa Ba Public School communication er, said the c of the new S school is par plan to bring

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## CHARTER, from P1

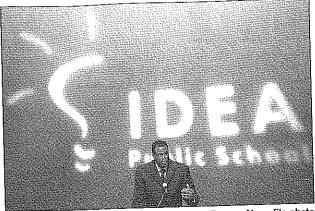
ties."

He also said because IDEA does not receive facilities funding from the state, collocating, in-district partnerships or building campuses from the ground up are options for future growth.

Initially, the Southside campus will serve kindergarten, first-, second- and sixth-grade students, and eventually grow to include grades K-12, as students

Randazzo added this stage of growth will increase the number of lowincome graduates in the Rio Grande Valley and surrounding area, and put IDEA on track to becoming the largest producer of low-income college graduates in Texas.

Barry said IDEA Public School students are put on a path toward college from their first day of kindergarten. In the past six years, 100 percent of graduating seniors have been accepted to the col-



San Antonio Express-News file photo

David Robinson speaks Feb. 29 at the Carver Cultural Center to announce a partnership between the Carver Academy and IDEA Public Schools to bring IDEA schools to San Antonio. The company has been operating in the Rio Grande Valley for 11 years and now operates 20 schools there.

lege of their choice,

Rolando Posada, IDEA's executive director for San Antonio, said IDEA Public Schools receives roughly 70 percent of funding compared to typical public schools in Texas. The remaining 30 percent comes from grants donations and philanthropy.

Posada said, "We are

talking about millions and millions of dollars in donations."

IDEA public schools began with founders Tom Torkelson and Joanne Gama during their tenure at Teach for America in Donna, Texas.

Posada said the pair was indignant at the attitude of the area, accepting children being educationally unsuccessful. The IDEA schools began as an afterschool program with 150 students housed in a church building.

"The genesis of the idea was the vision that we could set up shop in underserved areas," Posada said. "It didn't matter where you came from. Your ZIP code doesn't determine whether or not you have access to a world-class education."

Twelve years later, Idea boasts 28 schools in the Rio Grande Valley and Central Texas, serving more than 13,000 students. Posada said by 2017, IDEA hopes to increase to 56 schools and serve 34,000 students statewide.

"San Antonio schools are a huge part of that," he said. "Twenty of the 28 schools would be in San Antonio, including the one that already exists at Carver."

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## GRANTS, from Pl

Broadside Art and Writer Project: \$5,000.

Communities in the School, Page Middle School Program: \$1,500.

Jump Start Performance Co., Historias y Cuentos at Bonham Academy: \$10,000

Villa Finale National Trust for Historic Preservation, Historic Preservation Curriculum: \$4,546.

Bonham Academy Library, Literacy & Technology Upgrade: \$7,200.

Page Middle School, Pony Band Recourse Project: \$5,000.

Classic Theatre, Special Performance for Teachers Night: \$3,000.

In addition, \$16,000 was awarded to Alamo College Foundation's Brackenridge High School scholarships.

Annele Spector, the education program director at the Jump-Start Performance Co., said the \$10,000 that group received will be used for the Historias y Cuentos

(HYC) program at Bonham, which has been in operation since 1991.

HYC is an after-school program composed of about 18 students, which focuses culture awareness, self-esteem and so-

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