

\$21,000 in Scholarships and Awards Announced

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SAN ANTONIO: San Antonio Founders Day™ Alliance has announced a total of \$21,000 awards for students and educators. SAFDA has arranged for two contests, one for written essays and one for visual arts, on the theme: "How the history and heritage of a cultural group has contributed to San Antonio." Student responses to this topic will require research and reading in local history, as well as expressiveness in the literary or visual arts. The contests and awards are part of a year-round program dedicated to greater literacy among San Antonio's youth.

One of the main objectives of the San Antonio Founders Day™ Alliance (SAFDA) is to inspire and motivate both literacy and teacher excellence. We reward students for their literary and artistic skills -- and schools, teachers, principals and counselors for their excellence in promoting more reading and learning about San Antonio's history and heritage

The San Antonio Founders Day™ Alliance is proud to offer students in grades 6-12 the opportunity to win \$1,000 college scholarships. Each of the seven grade winners of the visual arts contest will receive a scholarship to the University of the Incarnate Word. Each of the seven grade winners of the essay contest will receive a scholarship to the Alamo Community College District school of choice, making it a total of \$14,000 in scholarships. To better align with the school year, the entry deadline for this year's contest is February 29, 2008. Judges who are well-known artists, writers, and historians in our community will select winning entries from each grade.

Plus, we are pleased to announce an additional award for educators through a motivational reward program. SAFDA is funding the *San Antonio Founders Day Excellence Award for Promoting History and Heritage through Reading and Visual Arts*. The award of \$500 will be presented to the school of each scholarship-winning student in recognition of the role of educators in supporting our program and the involvement of their students. A total of \$7,000 in cash awards is available.

The 4th annual San Antonio Founders Day™ is scheduled for Saturday, October 20. The contests and awards will be highlighted during the Opening Tribute program at 11am on at McAllister Auditorium. San Antonio Founders Day™ activities will continue that afternoon at San Pedro Springs Park. Additional contest and program details are available at www.SanAntonioFoundersDay.org.

San Antonio Founders Day™ is the annual citywide celebration of its beginnings in the 1700s and is a tribute to the more than 20 cultural groups and outstanding individuals who have for nearly 300 years shaped the unique character and identity of San Antonio de Bexar.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:
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