

# THE INFORMANT

Newsletter of the Knowledge Center, Inc.  
Pro Amore Discendi – For The Love of Learning  
Lubbock, Texas

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## DISTINGUISHED EDUCATORS OF LUBBOCK COUNTY RECOGNIZED

Retired Major General and Texas Tech School of Law Dean Emeritus Walt Huffman reminded an audience of over one hundred people, “We can all remember the teachers who made a positive difference in our lives.” Six such outstanding teachers were honored at a reception held at the LCU Baker Conference Center. The Knowledge Center and the LCU School of Education partnered for the second annual recognition of Distinguished Educators of Lubbock County. Superintendents with attendance areas within Lubbock County were invited to nominate one outstanding teacher to represent their district. Each educator received an engraved brass school hand bell and \$100. The honorees included (front) **Sandra Jimenez** (Frenship ISD), **Rhonda Tue** (Lubbock ISD), **Keith Creager** (Slaton ISD), (back) **Donna Hillstrom** (Lubbock-Cooper ISD), **Ollie Hart** (Abernathy ISD), and **Krystal Moyers** (Shallowater ISD).



## LCU EDUCATION STUDENTS PRESENT AT STATE AND NATIONAL CONFERENCE

LCU undergraduate students **Kaylee Stewart** and **Brittany Holloway** worked with Dr. Sam Ayers on developing a simulation for use with 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. The simulation focused on the Empressario land grant period in Texas history (1840s), when Anglo-American settlers were recruited from the United States to settle in northern Mexico (now known as Texas). The simulation promotes active student engagement and critical thinking.



**Brittany Holloway** and **Kaylee Stewart** presented the instructional materials to teachers at the Texas Council for the Social Studies State Conference in Fort Worth. Their project was also a poster session at the LCU Scholars Colloquium and the National Conference for Undergraduate Research held at the University of North Carolina-Asheville. The instructional materials are available to Texas history teachers at <http://www.theknowledgecenter.org/Resources.html>

## BLUE RIBBON PANEL SELECTS EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD RECIPIENTS

Two area educators were nominated by their superintendents as Distinguished Educators of Lubbock County and selected by a Blue Ribbon Panel of community judges to receive additional recognition. **Ollie Hart** (Abernathy ISD) and **Donna Hillstrom** (Lubbock-Cooper ISD) received the Lubbock Christian University Award for Excellence in Teaching. These two educators were selected for outstanding teaching, professional development, and educational service. They each received \$1,000.



### **BILL PERRYMAN PERFORMANCES BRING HISTORY TO LIFE**

Over two hundred students attended History In Person performances by Bill Perryman of San Antonio. The former elementary teacher now travels the state portraying famous people from American History. He delivered captivating monologues flanked with related Power Point images to tell the extraordinary stories of these people and the circumstances surrounding them as they lived. Students at Oak Ridge elementary (Frenship ISD) experienced George Washington. Roscoe Wilson (Lubbock ISD) elementary students learned about Thomas Jefferson. Students at Bowie (Lubbock ISD) elementary viewed Paul Revere. Cooper North students (Lubbock-Cooper ISD) attended the Sam Houston performance and students at Lubbock Christian elementary school experienced Abraham Lincoln. The presentations reinforced student learning in their social studies classes. The performances were sponsored by The CH Foundation and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

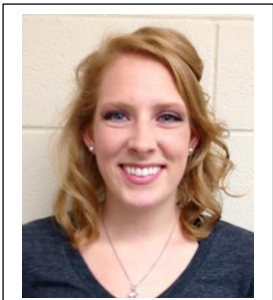


### **EDUCATION STUDENTS RECEIVE SPRING SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Spring 2016 Helen Jones Knowledge Center Scholarship was awarded to two LCU education students, Brooke Pendergrass and Claire Bruffey.

**Brooke Pendergrass** is a 2014 graduate of Whitharral High School. She participated in FFA, 4-H, Student Council and National Honor Society. She was a member of the track and UIL State Champion basketball teams. Brooke is an early childhood education major and is active in Phi Delta Kappa national education honor society. Brooke Pendergrass plans to graduate in May 2018 and teach in the Lubbock area.

**Claire Bruffey** was homeschooled graduating in 2012. She was active in drama club, dance club, and basketball. She spent a year as a student athlete at McMurry University before transferring to LCU. Claire is a member of Kappa Delta Pi national education honor society and participated in the School of Education mission trip to Ecuador. She is also a member of the Lady Chaps NCAA Division II National Champion basketball team. Claire Bruffey is an early childhood education major graduating in December 2016. After graduation, she plans to begin work on a master's degree. She intends to teach on the mission field and work with expecting mothers as a doula.



### **HOPE SHIVER PERFORMS AS SOJOURNER TRUTH**

Applying her talents as an opera singer and actress, Hope Shiver incorporates her talents along with storytelling to transform herself into Sojourner Truth. Adding a Dutch accent to her English as an added authentic element, Hope Shiver captivated the attention of her elementary and adult audiences. Students experienced what appeared to be a visit from the real Sojourner Truth as they heard first-person stories and acapella songs. She unfolded her experiences from childhood as Isabella, life as a slave with different owners, her eventual freedom and name change to Sojourner Truth, and her efforts for the abolition of slavery and rights for women through her public speaking. The presentations were made at Lubbock Christian, Centennial, Whiteside, and Roscoe Wilson elementary schools. Over two hundred students enjoyed the programs designed to supplement learning in their social studies classes. The performances were generously sponsored by The CH Foundation and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

