

Thanks for asking about our programs designed SPECIFICALLY FOR SCHOOLS: 2010-11.

We have lots of variations and can tailor something to your budget and needs. All of our characters are volunteers. So scheduling of specific stations and/or characters depends on availability. This allows us to keep our cost at a minimum. The fees are used to pay administrative costs and repairs to equipment, etc.

This listing will give you a basic idea of what we have to offer. Let our Program Coordinator know if you have any further questions. Discounts for multiple presentations may apply. Ask for details when scheduling the program. Duration of some programs may be reduced to allow more students to attend or lengthened to allow for additional information and more interaction with the presenter. Remember we are all volunteers and we love teaching history. We try to tailor our programs to your needs and work within your budget. We are flexible. *We come to your location. No busses or other hidden expenses are required.*

Chuckwagon/Pioneer Campsite: up to 240 students per day (1 hour of programming per student)

Our campsites use the Texana chuckwagon as a backdrop, but we change the specific stations to reflect your preference. (Note: if budget is a concern, discuss other options with the program coordinator.) This camp is a favorite for schools and fits perfectly with the Texas history curriculum in 4th and 7th grade.

Camps include 4 teaching stations which may include a combination of the following: laundry, games/toys, kitchen, fibers and/or spinning, family life, cowboys, trapper w/furs, cavalry, Texas Ranger, etc. The Chuckwagon Cook may discuss open fire cooking and the diverse duties of the cook. The Trail Boss may discuss the dangers of herding cattle 1500 miles in 4-5 months across rivers and such. The students get to try their hand at churning butter, grinding corn, hand-washing laundry with lye soap, pioneer toys & games, etc.

We suggest 60-80 students in each 1-hour rotation thru the camp (but times are flexible). These are broken into 4 smaller groups of 15-20 students with a maximum of 3 rotations in a day. In this format we can visit with up to 240 students in a day. 4th graders especially find the camp relevant because they study Texas History. However, we work with all ages and can tailor the program to fit the age of the students. So you can utilize the program for more than one grade level. We provide 5-9 volunteers at the camp AT LEAST ONE ADULT from your school must participate with each small group of students.

You may consider adding additional stations to the camp or a Texana Stage Presentation to enhance the camp experience. For a more “hands-on” and in depth experience you might want to plan a Pioneer Life-Skills and Craft Demonstration or Workshop in addition to the camp.

Texas Characters of the 1800’s Stage Presentations: up to 200 students per presentation

The character wears a period-correct costume and gives a first-person recollection of their life in a monologue style format. Characters include: [Sam Houston](#), [Margaret Houston](#), [Susanna Dickinson](#), [Molly Goodnight](#), [DeLiens Rose](#), [Aunt Sukey](#), [Texas Ranger](#), [Eugenia Lavender](#) and several others. Students learn that historical figures were real, live people and can relate to historical events on a more personal level. Please note that limited props are used in this format. The presentation usually lasts 45 minutes to 1 hour including time for questions at the end and is recommended for grades 3 and up. You may include up to 200 students at one time, depending on space and/or age of students.

Pioneer Life Skill & Craft Demonstrations and Workshops: limited class size

We have several interactive Pioneer Life Skill (craft) Demonstrations, including: butter making, spinning, candle dipping, quilting, fibers, laundry, games, school life, corn grinding, carding and others. Presenters wear period costumes and use various tools and implements to lead an interactive demonstration of Pioneer Life. Most demonstrations are limited to 25 students. We recommend 30-minute presentations for optimum participation; however, as many as 100 students may be included if length of program is reduced. Ask Program Coordinator for details about discounts and/or ways to include more students when scheduling.

Our Pioneer Life Skill Workshops are similar to the demonstrations except that each student gets to make a finished product. The workshops require an additional charge of \$1 per student for supplies and additional time to complete craft. Recommended for grades K-6, ask for details and possible discounts.

Sam Houston: up to 200 students per presentation

Sam Houston (1793 – 1863) has been called an “American Giant”, the “Great Designer”, “Colossus in Buckskin”, the “Tallest Texan”, the “Empire Builder”, and was one of the most colorful, controversial and influential men in the history of Texas and the United States. In addition to being a teacher, an attorney, a decorated general and the first elected president of the Republic of Texas, he was also the only man in U.S. history to have been governor of two states. An authentically costumed presenter has thoroughly researched General Houston and delivers a first-person monologue-style presentation of this bigger than life character. Presentation is altered to accommodate the age of students. Houston is one of our most requested historical characters and takes 45 min. - 1 hour including time for questions at the end. Recommended for grades 3-6.

Susanna Dickinson: up to 200 students per presentation

Susanna Dickinson will always be remembered as the sole adult Anglo survivor that witnessed the massacre at the Battle of the Alamo. It was here that her husband died and her daughter, Angelina, was given the legendary ring by William Travis, which is now on display at the Alamo. Following the fall of the Alamo, Susanna was interviewed by Santa Anna himself and sent by him with a message to Sam Houston. But Susanna's story does not end there. Susanna was a strong woman and a survivor, but the memory of those days would haunt her for the rest of her life. She sometimes suffered from what she called her “black days”. Hear her story told by one of Texana's costumed characters delivered in a monologue-style presentation. Program takes 45 min. – 1 hour with time allotted for questions at the end. Recommended for grades 3-6

Buttermaking: 25 students per presentation

Butter is a culinary treasure as old as King Tut's tomb. In this workshop, we will discuss the history and development of butter making and its importance in society. The presenter will be in 19th century costume and will focus on the commonly used process of making butter on the family farm of that era. Students will learn a little about the science of milk and butter making, as well as how butter was used for bartering and developed into a cottage industry. Each student will make (and eat) their own butter and learn how time consuming this chore was for the 19th century family, a lesson that can only be learned by experience. Students will learn several new vocabulary words that coincide with science and social studies.

Each presentation is limited to 25 students and takes about 1 hour. Recommended for grades 1-6

Pioneer School Days and Toys Demonstration/Workshop: 25 students per presentation

Students will learn what a typical day was like for a pioneer child living in Texas in the 1800's. They will hear about some of the chores that children would have to complete before walking to school each day. They will see McGuffey Readers, hear a school bell, write on slates and find out what was in a lunch pail. They will also get to try their hand at an assortment of pioneer toys and even get to make their own toy to keep. Educational materials provided by the Program Coordinator. Each presentation is limited to 25 students and takes about 1 hour including time for craft (making a period toy). Program may be presented (shortened time) as a demonstration only with no craft to include more students. We have craft suggestions (with instructions) that may be lead by the teacher. Recommended for grades 1-6, make/take toy varies with age of students.

Life of a Cowhand: 25 students per presentation

A small group of 25 students gather around the Cowhand to hear what his life was really like on they trail. The small group setting of this program allows students to have a personal visit with a cowhand. They will get to see the gear used by the cowhand on the trail and find out what each item was used for. They will hear how a crew of 10-13 men could transport 2500 head of cattle in a single drive from ranch to market. They will learn about the responsibilities of each of the positions on the crew including the horse wrangler who could have been as young as 12 years old. They will also learn about the economics of the time and find out which position on the drive earned the most money and the most respect. Educational materials provided including worksheets. We recommend 30-minute presentations for optimum participation; however, as many as 100 students may be included if length of program is reduced. Ask Program Coordinator for details about

discounts and/or ways to include more students when scheduling the program. Recommended for grades K-6, program tailored to fit age of students.

Fur Trapper and His Pelts: 25 students per presentation

The fur trade was one of the earliest and most important industries in North America. The fur trading industry played a major role in the development of the United States and Canada for more than 300 years. This unique program allows students to visit with a fur trapper dressed in period clothing from the 1800's. He will bring more than 30 pelts of non-domesticated animals commonly found in Texas during the 1800's including an American Bison and Black Bear. He will discuss and allow the students to touch as many pelts as time allows. He will point out the distinctive physical traits of each animal and explain why that trait is important to the animal's survival. He will also touch on topics such as predator/prey, nocturnal, extinction, dangers, etc. We recommend 30-minute presentations for optimum participation; however, as many as 100 students may be included if length of program is reduced. Ask for details about discounts and/or including more students when scheduling the program. Educational materials provided including activity sheets. Recommended for grades K-6, program tailored to fit age of students.

German Immigrant Spinner Demo: 25 students per presentation

Barbara Welch draws upon her German family ancestry to share a little about the important part that the German immigrants played in the history of Texas. She combines her story of hardship, endurance and triumph with her love of spinning. Her spinning wheel mesmerizes audiences of all ages as they learn about the everyday life of the Texas pioneer wife and mother. This interactive program utilizes an intimate setting (maximum of 25 students per presentation) to engage the students and is great for all types of learning styles. They hear how pioneers used the available raw materials to meet their needs and get to touch raw cotton, wool, buffalo, camel and other fibers. We recommend 30-minute presentations for optimum participation; however, as many as 100 students may be included if length of program is reduced. Recommended for grades K-6, program tailored to fit age of students.

German Immigrant Spinner Workshop: 25 students per presentation

Demonstration program above is lengthened to include time for a make/take craft at the end. \$1 per student supply fee is added. Craft varies based on age of students. Recommended for grades K-6.

Tall Tales, Texas Style Told by Molly Goodnight: 50 students per presentation

As Portrayed by LaJuanna Faught

Stories have been shared in every culture and in every land as a means of entertainment, education, preservation of culture and to instill moral values. These traditional Tall Tales will be told with a decisive Texas Style to them. They will be presented by Molly Goodnight, the wife of Charles Goodnight and the first white woman on the Llano Estacada. She was well-loved and respected by the cattlemen and became known as the "Mother of the Panhandle" and the "Darling of the Prairie". Dressed in period clothing, Mrs. Goodnight will use traditional folktales as a gentle way to guide the students toward constructive personal values by presenting imaginative situations in which the outcome of both wise and unwise actions and decisions can be seen. LaJuanna Faught is an excellent story teller and brings new life and energy to the stories that may have a familiar ring to you.

Discount for additional presentations may be available. Ask Program Coordinator for details when scheduling the program. No more than 50 students per each presentation. Smaller groups are highly recommended for 1st grade and younger students. Recommended for Pre-K – 3rd grade.

Additional travel fees may be required for schools located outside of the Dallas area or if specific persons are requested. Some programs are not available to travel long distances. However, possible alterations may be available to make them more portable. Remember to discuss discounts and ways to tailor our programs to meet your individual needs when speaking with the Program Coordinator.