

TEXAS RURAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

# NEWSLETTER

Leadership | Advocacy | Sustainability



[MEMBERS ONLY](#)

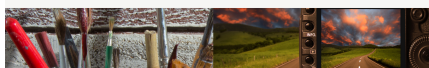
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TREA Annual Student Art Contest  
Award Program



**Get those Art contest entries submitted!** Cash prizes awarded to the students! **DEADLINE 4/5**. Contact [Kasey Hyde](#) with questions or to let her know entries are on the way.



**Presentation Proposals!** We still need a few more sessions for the conference, including the Research Symposium. If you or someone you know has a session that would be applicable to rural education submit it for the committee to review. Our research symposium is great for someone that needs presentation hours for their Doctoral requirements. Contact [Bonnie Walker](#) with questions or go ahead and submit. We have left the [form OPEN](#). We will notify presenters the end of April if their session has been selected.

[2024 TREA Annual Conference | Reminders | Checkout the Schedule](#)



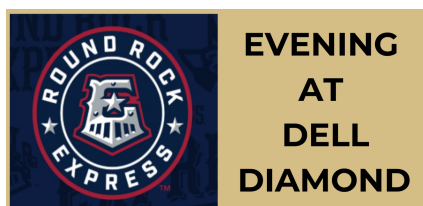
**The room block at Kalahari is sold out** but you can still book through the TREA Kalahari link but it will not be a discounted rate. TREA has secured a room block at [LaQuinta](#) adjacent to Kalahari.

**PLEASE NOTE:** A hotel reservation **DOES NOT** serve as conference registration. Make sure all who need a registration, etc. have the correct form submitted. Also, contact [Kasey Hyde](#) first if you need to cancel a room at Kalahari.



### Meal Ticket Only

Meals are included in full conference registrations. If you need an extra ticket for the scholarship banquet, breakfast, or OTY luncheon use this form.



### New Event | Tuesday 6/25

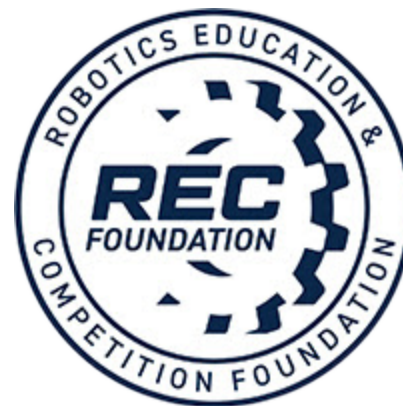
Free for school district attendees and their families. A fee for vendors, unless they are sponsoring the event. Once the event is full there will be no more spots available so please don't wait.



### Join Us! | Monday 6/24

Free for school district and ESC members.

OUR PARTNERS



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### CW-FIT 2024 RECRUITMENT



Class-Wide FIT (CW-FIT) is a classroom management system comprised of four research-based components that improve class-wide engagement during academic instruction.

Become a part of the 2024 recruitment group that will include at least 6 schools and 24 teachers. **Receive funds** for conferences and stipends.

More Information: [CW-FIT Testimonials](#) and [CW-FIT School Responsibilities](#).

### UTeach Professional Development

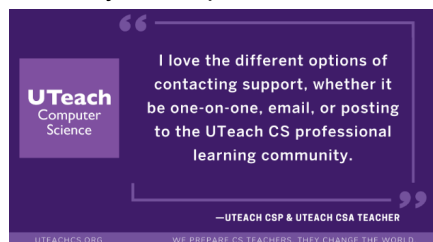


**Partner With Us!** We know that as a district leader, your time may be stretched thin. Partnering with UTeach PD is a great way to ensure all your teachers have access to both high-quality professional learning and opportunities to connect with other educators from across the state.

When districts enroll their teachers into our blended learning courses, they can expect access to the following:

- **Job-embedded Learning:** One of our main goals is to ensure teachers find the coursework highly relevant to what is happening in their classrooms, right now.
- **Flexibility:** Every blended learning course is self-paced, allowing for teachers with busy schedules to learn on their own time and at their own pace.
- **Expert Support:** UTeach PD course facilitators are all former classroom teachers with an expertise in blended learning and STEM education. Our highly responsive facilitators aim to provide feedback to participants within 24 hours.

- **An Engaged and Supportive Community:** If blended learning is our jam, community is our secret sauce! UTeach PD has created an online educator community unlike any other, available to all course participants to share resources, ask questions, and support each other. Every week, our team also highlights educators who are doing exceptional work. Take a peek at our [X feed](#) to see what these celebrations look like.
- **TEKS Aligned Resources:** Course participants are provided access to our Blended Learning Resource Library that grows every week! Teachers can download station rotations, playlists, choice boards, and more. These resources are organized by the Texas standards and are filtered for quality by our expert course facilitators.



### Need Support for your AP Computer Science Teachers?

UTeach Computer Science helps **any** educator from **any** content background become a successful AP CS teacher with our practical [professional development](#), project-based [curriculum](#), and [ongoing teacher support](#). Partner teachers have access to individualized mentoring, on-demand video and email support, webinars, videos with just-in-time guidance, and professional learning communities.

TEA reimbursement is also available for our AP CS Principles and AP CSA professional development! [View steps for PD reimbursement](#), [request sample lessons](#), or [schedule a time](#) to learn more about UTeach CS.

**Contact: Dixie Valdez** | [pdinfo@uteach.utexas.edu](mailto:pdinfo@uteach.utexas.edu) UTeach Professional Development Manager  
[uteach-institute.org](http://uteach-institute.org) | [pd.uteach.utexas.edu](http://pd.uteach.utexas.edu)

## SMU District Leadership Fellow

 <p>District Leadership Fellows expanded my network of colleagues as well as my knowledge of effective leadership.</p> <p><b>MRS. TAYLOR WILLIAMS</b> Superintendent Slidell ISD</p>	★ ★ ★	 <p>Above all, the SMU District Leadership Fellows program offered me an opportunity to heighten my leadership effectiveness to better serve my students, staff, and community.</p> <p><b>DR. BRYAN TAULTON</b> Superintendent Coldspring-Oakhurst CISD</p>
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[District Leadership Fellows](#) is a hybrid in-person and online strengths-based leadership development program. It is open to school district superintendents and other leaders in the district office. [Early bird applications](#) due March 31, 2024. Click [here](#) for more details.

### Application timeline and cost

- Early bird applications due March 31, 2024
- Rolling applications accepted April & May 2024
- Program cost \$1450

### Additional information

- Blog: [Applications Open for 2024-2025 District Leadership Fellows](#)
- Twitter: [@SMULeadImpact](#)
- Questions: Email [Christine Ferguson](#)

## NREA Membership



TREA members are also NREA members. Make sure you are involved on a national level for rural schools. Follow them [online](#) and on X [@nrea1](#). This is [the latest from Dr. Allen Pratt](#) regarding voucher.

## National Space Day



**4th and 5th grade teachers: Join classes across the country for an out-of-this-world experience on National Space Day!**

This spring, the U.S. space industry and NASA are offering your students a look into the science and technology that will shape their generation's future – on this planet and beyond. Get your students excited about the incredible wonders and potential of space by joining us for this unique 45-minute broadcast event Friday, May 3, at 1p.m. ET (10 a.m. PT). [Register here.](#) [Informational Video.](#)

Highlights of the experience:

- Q&A between 4th and 5th grade students and America's leading experts on space – these adults are taking on the toughest questions kids have about space!
- Engaging lessons on how rockets launch, why we grow plants in space, why the U.S. is going to Mars, how space technology shapes our everyday lives on Earth, and more!
- A message and a challenge from the astronauts on the International Space Station, just for your kids!
- After the event, kids can submit a short letter with their thoughts on the future of space for a chance to have it shared with NASA leaders.

## FAFSA Week of Action



The White House and the Department of Education are announcing a FAFSA Week of Action, which will take place April 15-19.

In preparation for the FAFSA Week of Action, we are encouraging high school counselors, principals and other school leaders, superintendents, after school programs, parent groups, non-profit organizations, and other local and state education organizations to commit to taking action to raise awareness about the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form, known as the Better FAFSA, and support student submission. Simplified and streamlined, the Better FAFSA will provide more aid to more students than ever before to help pay for college.

***If you would like to commit to taking one or more of the actions described in the linked document*** – such as by hosting a FAFSA submission workshop – please complete the [linked form](#) and email it back to [Jessica.I.Cardichon@who.eop.gov](mailto:Jessica.I.Cardichon@who.eop.gov) by **6:00 p.m. ET on April 5, 2024.**

## Update Your Membership Record & Check Your Address

A screenshot of a website interface with a dark blue background. In the center, the word "Welcome" is written in a white, cursive font. To the right, the name "Kasey Hyde" is displayed in a white, sans-serif font, with "Texas Rural Education Association" and "Admin" in smaller white text below it. At the bottom left, there is a small white box with the text "District's, ESC's or Company's info correct? Review &amp; Update your profile". At the bottom of the page, there is a white navigation bar with several blue links: "Member Directory", "My Profile", "Event Calendar", "My Community", "Community Forum", and "CE BT Transcript".

Take a few minutes to login and review the information we have in our system for your ISD, ESC, or company. ISDs/ESCs click [here](#) and Sponsors/Exhibitors click [here](#) for instructions. Also, please double check [TREA's address and W9](#) with your business office. Contact [Kasey Hyde](#) with any questions.

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TEXAS RURAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION  
7415 Southwest Pkwy Bldg 6, Ste 500 #243 | Austin, TX 78735

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Bill Tarleton  
Executive Director  
tel:254.602.2056  
[btarleton@txrea.com](mailto:btarleton@txrea.com)



Bonnie Walker  
Director of Operations  
tel:512.415.1646  
[bwalker@txrea.com](mailto:bwalker@txrea.com)



Kasey Hyde  
Coordinator of Member Services  
tel:877.567.8732 ext. 3  
[khyde@txrea.com](mailto:khyde@txrea.com)



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