

LYNDON B. JOHNSON NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK AWARDED NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION 'TICKET TO RIDE' GRANT TO BRING LOCAL STUDENTS INTO PARK

\$230,000 Grant Connects 30,000 Students with National Parks Across the Country

Washington, D.C. (September 21, 2012) - Responding to an overwhelming need for transportation and educational programming funding from parks and schools nationwide, the National Park Foundation, the official charity of America's national parks, created the Ticket To Ride program. With support from Disney, Ticket to Ride provides financial resources for transportation, in-park educational programming, and meals that make national park field trips possible for schools across the country. This year, Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park was selected to receive a Ticket to Ride grant in order to bring 1100 students to the park. Nationwide, over \$230,000 in Ticket to Ride grants will make it possible for more than 30,000 students to experience their local national park this fall.

President Lyndon B. Johnson took great pride in sharing the LBJ Ranch and his heritage with others. Continuing with this tradition, Farm and Ranch Days and Frontier Life Days education programs will be presented to 4th and 5th Graders from area schools in early October 2012. Incorporated into the programs are a variety of fun and educational lessons such horn branding, roping, and frontier history.

"As a former school teacher President Johnson knew the importance of educating our youth. Farm and Ranch and Frontier Life Days combine President Johnson's love of the Hill Country and his commitment to learning", said Park Superintendent Russ Whitlock.

"Providing the means for America's youth to experience all that our national park system has to offer is imperative," said Neil Mulholland, President and CEO of the National Park Foundation. "The Ticket to Ride program makes it possible for us to engage the younger generation through the parks' unique natural, cultural and historical classrooms, ultimately fostering an early love and appreciation for these important places."

In addition to Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park, the Fall 2012 Ticket to Ride grantees include:

Assateague Island National Seashore

Biscayne National Park

Boston National Historical Park

Bryce Canyon National Park

Buck Island Reef National Monument

Catoctin Mountain Park

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park

Congaree National Park

Crater Lake National Park

Craters of the Moon National Monument and National Preserve

Devils Postpile National Monument

Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor

Everglades National Park and Biscayne National Park

Fort Sumter National Monument

Homestead National Monument of America

Lava Beds National Monument

Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial

Mississippi National River and Recreation Area

Moores Creek National Battlefield

National Mall and Memorial Parks

New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park

North Cascades National Park

Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail

Piscataway Park

Point Reyes National Seashore

River Raisin National Battlefield Park

San Juan Island National Historical Park

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area

Stones River National Battlefield

Virgin Islands National Park

Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts

World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument

Yosemite National Park

For many students, the Ticket to Ride field trip will be their first visit to a national park. Recognizing that once in the parks, a world of experiential learning opens up, the National Park Foundation and the National Park Service are dedicated to providing this critical access to the parks. Through these field trips, young people discover their natural, cultural and historical heritage, participate in volunteer and service-learning activities, enjoy recreational opportunities and most importantly, begin a lifelong relationship with their national parks.

For more information about the Ticket to Ride program, our corporate partners and ways to support this and the other exceptional National Park Foundation programs, go to www.nationalparks.org.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION

You are the owner of 84 million acres of the world's most treasured memorials, landscapes, ecosystems, and historic sites -- all protected in America's nearly 400 national parks. Chartered by Congress, the National Park Foundation is the official charity of America's national parks. We work hand in hand with the National Park Service to connect you and all Americans to the parks, and to make sure that they are preserved for the generations who will follow. Join us in supporting your national parks -- this is your land. www.nationalparks.org.

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