

Literary and Fine Arts Festival and Parade

Commissioner Andy Meyers believes in the importance of literacy and fine arts among students in Katy.

Celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Cinco Ranch Branch Library

April 4
6 - 9 p.m.
Cinco Ranch
Branch Library

Written by Kirsten Cornell | Photography by Adventure Photo and Design

The Katy community has always held the importance of education and literacy in high esteem. Fort Bend County Precinct 3 Commissioner Andy Meyers is no exception. "Literacy helps develop critical life skills," says Meyers. "It expands life experiences, allows our youth to explore other cultures and worlds, learn about our history and how our nation was founded, exposes them to the great thinkers throughout history, and provides them adventure and excitement."

Partnering with Katy Contemporary Arts Museum, *Katy Magazine*, LaCenterra, The Sweet Boutique, and Fort Bend County libraries, Meyers created the Literary and Fine Arts Festival and Parade, colliding with the 10th anniversary of Cinco Ranch Branch Library. "Promoting literacy and fine arts is essential to enjoying life to the fullest," he says.

Art and Composition Competition

Students in kindergarten through 12th grade who attend schools in precinct 3 are able to enter both art and literary competitions. Winners for the art show will be announced for selections such as best in show, judges' choice, and individual place ribbons. In addition, best in show winners will also receive a monetary award of \$500. "An event such as this helps bring the community together to enjoy and officially recognize our talented young people," says Meyers.

Literary composition contestants will have the opportunity to write about what Cinco Ranch Branch Library has meant to them or a favorite memory. "We are creative beings," explains Meyers. "As such, participating in fine arts allows us to exercise our own creativity and enjoy the creativity of others."

A Parade of Characters

Kindergartners through third-grade students from any Katy ISD school can participate in the character parade on April 4. "Little ones will have so much fun dressing up as their favorite book character and marching in a parade through LaCenterra," says Lori Ann Belin, community relations manager for Commissioner Meyer's office. A first-place trophy and second- and third-place ribbons will be awarded for cutest characters.

"My favorite book as a kid was *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain," recalls Meyers. "Probably because I identified with Huckleberry, an adventurous, mischievous young boy who took life as it came to him and marveled at the wonders and people he encountered."

The character parade will end at the festival where patrons will find games, a photo booth, fire trucks, a multitude of vendor booths, sweet treats, and door prizes that will be given throughout the event.

Start planning your costume now, and join the fun while supporting Katy ISD students. "We have such extraordinarily talented youth," says Meyers. "We need to encourage [them] to continue developing their creative skills." **KM**



KIRSTEN CORNELL is the lead associate editor of Katy Magazine. Her favorite childhood book character was the unpredictable, Amelia Bedelia.

For more info, contact 281-238-1400