



The Texas Brigades Wildlife Leadership Camps

www.texasbrigades.org

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Alkek Foundation Recognizes Texas Brigades Youth Program

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SAN ANTONIO – The Albert and Margaret Alkek Foundation recently recognized the Texas Brigades Wildlife Education and Youth Leadership Development Program for outstanding accomplishment in youth development.

The Alkek Foundation, based in Houston, Texas, awarded the Texas Brigades a challenge grant of \$60,000. The foundation will provide a one-to-one match for each dollar raised by Texas Brigades. When asked why the foundation is investing in the Texas Brigades, Charlie Williams, President, said, “We believe the Brigades are preparing the future leaders of Texas to deal with complicated wildlife and natural resource issues which face our state.”

Dr. Dale Rollins, Extension wildlife specialist at San Angelo, and the Brigades’ originator, said the program teaches high school youth about wildlife, fisheries, habitat conservation, and land and water stewardship.

Rollins said cadets also practice team-building, communication, and leadership skills to enable them to fulfill their mission of becoming ambassadors for conservation and to ensure a sustained wildlife and fisheries legacy for future generations.

There are five camps in the Brigades program; two Bobwhite Brigades, two Buckskin Brigades, and one Feathered Forces. They are held in five different locations across Texas during June and July.

The Brigades have educated more than 1,200 young people over the past 14 years. These youth have conducted educational programs and projects for more than 200,000 people and have earned two national and four state awards for excellence. They have also been featured in many newspaper, magazine and television stories over the years. Six Brigade graduates have earned recognition as “Youth Conservationist of the Year” from the Sportsman Conservationists of Texas.

For more information about the Brigades or to donate, contact Helen Holdsworth, Executive Director, at (800) 839-9453 or (210) 826-2904 or log on to: www.texasbrigades.org

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“Tell me, I forget; Show me, I remember; Involve me, I understand.” - Anonymous