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TFAUupdate

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Texas Foundation for the Arts' first documentary film, "The Prairie View A&M Story," received an award of excellence in the 2003 Videographer Awards competition.

Produced by Houston-based Sunset Productions, the one-hour documentary details the historic role and accomplishments of Prairie View A&M over its illustrious 125-year history.

"The Prairie View A&M Story" premiered in Houston on PBS on Oct. 29, 2002. Word of the award came on the heels of the documentary's Austin screening party, co-hosted by film sponsor Fulbright & Jaworski, and KLRU-TV. Other film sponsors were Duke Energy; Shell Oil; HEB Markets; Smith, Graham & Company; and the Linda and Ken Lay Family.

The Videographer Awards received close to 2,700 entries from around the world for this year's competition. Judges deemed that "The Prairie View A&M Story" was "written, produced, shot and edited in an exceptional manner," and they ranked the film in the top 10 percent of entries received.

www.texarts.org



MAKING ROOM FOR THE PAST IN TEXAS' FUTURE

Texas Foundations for the Arts' Texas courthouses project is Texana at its finest. Through a series of documentary films, these grand palaces of the prairie spanning a near-century of Texas history from the 1850s to the 1940s are being showcased as living symbols of the regional rivalries that shaped the state.

The documentary, "The Golden Age of Texas Courthouses," is being produced by Sunset Productions of Houston, Texas, with grants received from lead funder Fulbright & Jaworski, LLP; the Goliad Economic Development Corporation; Albert & Ethel Herzstein Charitable Trust; George P. Mitchell; Strake Foundation; and a consortium lead by The Williams Company, AIA.

Architectural Masterpieces

The first phase of the project—on-site research and the filming of 45 courthouses throughout the state—is complete and scriptwriting is under way.

"Texas has more historic courthouses than any other state, and they represent some of the finest works of public architecture in the entire country," said Kim Williams, whose Austin firm, The Williams Company, has been a leader in Texas county courthouse restoration for nearly two decades.

Rich in Texas Heritage

The importance of preserving the state's more than 200 courthouses as an irreplaceable link in Texas history and heritage is a central theme in "The Golden Age of Texas Courthouses."

Distinguished Advisory Panel

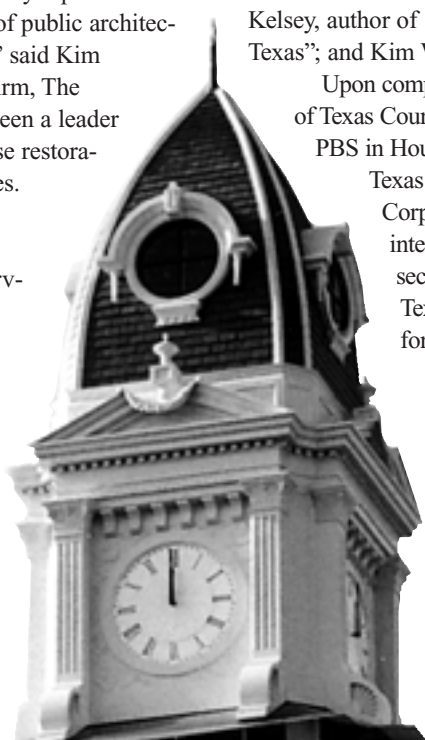
The project is being guided by an advisory panel that includes Dr. Virginia P. Bernhard, Historian and Professor of History, the University of St. Thomas; Nancy Burch,

"Texas has more historic courthouses than any other state..."
—Kim Williams, *The Williams Company*

Rice Historical Society and TFA board member; Dr. Stephen Fox, Adjunct Lecturer, Architecture, Rice University; Dr. Mavis P. Kelsey, author of "The Courthouses of Texas"; and Kim Williams, AIA.

Upon completion, "The Golden Age of Texas Courthouses," will premiere on PBS in Houston and then air on other Texas PBS stations.

Corporations and individuals interested in underwriting the second episode should contact Texas Foundation for the Arts for information.



Back to the Future:
The Goliad courthouse receives its new clock-tower, restoring it to mint 1890s condition.

The Captivating Murals of Daniel Lechon

Internationally acclaimed Mexican artist Daniel Lechon, who now resides in Houston, has undertaken one of his most challenging projects of his career: painting the history of South Texas on three 9-foot-by-30-foot wall murals for the new Kenedy Ranch Museum in Sarita, Texas. Texas Foundation for the Arts is tracking the creative process of these one-of-a-kind murals through a documentary film that will air on PBS in Texas.

From the days of the conquistadors in the 1500s to the railroads and legendary ranching families of the 19th and 20th centuries, the murals illustrate the drama involved in living near the Rio Grande, as well as the cultural interaction between Mexico and the United States that has played such a large role in the history of the area over hundreds of years.



The Kenedy Ranch Museum, located 60 miles south of Corpus Christi, celebrated its grand opening on Saturday, Oct. 25, 2003.

The John G. and Marie Stella Kenedy Memorial Foundation awarded a grant toward the development of a documentary, and Texas Foundation for the Arts is seeking additional underwriter participation.

The film has been endorsed by Houston PBS for its appeal to a variety of audiences, including those who enjoy Texas history, and Hispanic viewers.

Artist at Work: Daniel Lechon at the Kenedy Ranch Museum

SAM HOUSTON STATE HISTORY LESSON

Sam Houston State University—named after the legendary General Sam Houston, who played a crucial role in the founding of Texas—will be the subject of a new documentary film by Texas Foundation for the Arts to mark the school's 125th anniversary.

TFA Executive Director Kim Lykins said the 30-minute film will trace the university's unique heritage and history, as well as its evolution and accomplishments.

Founded on Oct. 10, 1879, Sam Houston State is the oldest teacher training institution in Texas and the third-oldest state university.

Texas Foundation for the Arts is the fiscal sponsor. Corporations and individuals interested in underwriting the documentary should contact the foundation at 713-529-0787.



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