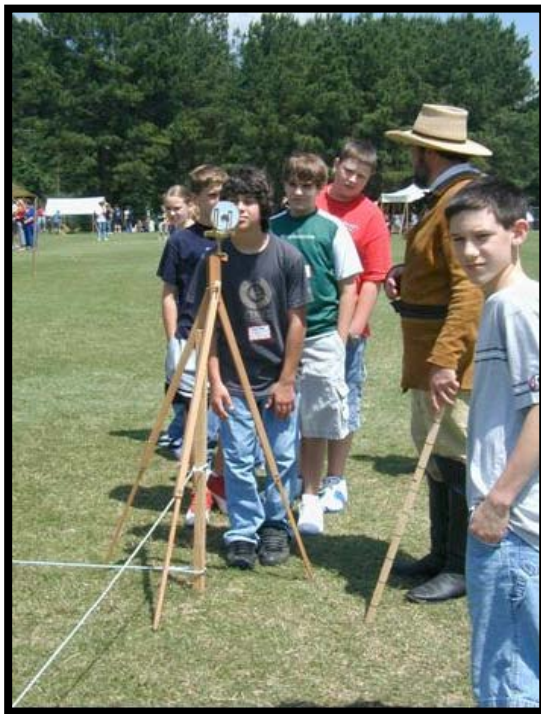


# TEXIAN TIME MACHINE

## *A Memorable Journey to Colonial Texas*



***An Immersive and Educational Living History  
Program That Comes to You***

***Presented by the Fort Bend Museum Association***



Dear Educator,

The Fort Bend Museum Association of Richmond, Texas invites you to explore the *Texian Time Machine*, our new and innovative educational outreach program about life in 1830s colonial Texas. It provides a compelling field trip experience without travel time and costs. The *Texian Time Machine* is a comprehensive immersive living history program presented at school campuses that closely ties with curriculum goals and objectives for the grade levels studying Texas History. Although specifically designed for the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades, the program can be easily adapted to fit other ages.

The *Texian Time Machine* incorporates the highest standards of both authenticity and educational focus as it utilizes the techniques of hands-on activities presented by our professionally trained and costumed personnel. Suggestions for pre and post visit activities are also included to enhance the classroom experience.

For 37 years, the Fort Bend Museum Association has been in the business of teaching history to literally hundreds of thousands of students at our in-town site and for the last 16 years at the George Ranch Historical Park. We sincerely believe the *Texian Time Machine* represents all the expertise, quality, and creativity that our organization can offer. Please take the time to carefully read through our materials and watch the PowerPoint presentation. We welcome the chance to speak with you and plan for how a visit from the *Texian Time Machine* can benefit your school. Thank you so much for your consideration and interest.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Moore  
Executive Director  
Fort Bend Museum Association





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**Fueled by** a highly prestigious three year matching grant from the Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services, the *Texian Time Machine* was created to expand the reach of the Fort Bend Museum Association's educational programs. This revolutionary new outreach program allows maximum flexibility, overcomes the obstacles of distance and transportation costs for school administrators, and allows the Fort Bend Museum to better serve a greatly expanded audience. Designed as an extensive outreach program with a capacity of up to 300 children per day, the *Texian Time Machine* provides an unparalleled learning opportunity that closely follows grade specific curriculum requirements and seamlessly integrates objectives related to geography, economics, and political and social history. Utilizing the techniques of hands-on activities, role-playing simulations and dramatic characterizations, costumed interpreters interact with children through a series of learning modules that educate about various life experiences of the 1830s in "Austin's Colony." Eliminating travel time allows students to benefit with a far more extensive learning experience. The program is anticipated to serve 15,000 students annually by 2007.

**Backed by** the credibility and expertise of the Fort Bend County Museum Association of Richmond Texas, the *Texian Time Machine* exemplifies the highest standards of authenticity, professionalism and historical accuracy. The Museum Association, now in its 37th year, is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation that serves the mission to preserve and interpret the regional history of southeast Texas with a particular emphasis on the settlement and impact of Stephen F. Austin's Colony. Comprised of a Museum gallery, two historic house museums, adjacent historical properties, and the George Ranch Historical Park, the Association is one of only three Museums in the Houston metropolitan area to have received accreditation from the American Association of Museums for overall excellence. Over 40,000 students from 46 districts in a 19 county area annually participate in an on-site program.

**Created by** the following highly qualified Project Development Team sought for their particular expertise in education, curriculum objectives/guidelines and historical accuracy/interpretation.

**Kelly Ray:** Project Manager-- Undergraduate and graduate degrees in education, and is presently enrolled in the graduate history program at the University of Houston. Employed for four years at Colonial Williamsburg in interpretive and administrative roles. Served nine years as the Curator of Education at the Kentucky Derby Museum, and several years as a classroom teacher.

**Anna Sheppard:** Curriculum Specialist-- Undergraduate and graduate degrees in education. Taught history in the Aldine, New Caney and Humble school districts. Junior Historian sponsor (20 years); recipient of numerous teaching awards, including the "Leadership in Education" (Texas State Historical Association); the "Otis Locke Award" (East Texas Historical Association); and statewide recognition as the "Outstanding Texas History Teacher" (the Daughters of the Republic of Texas.) Serves on the Educational Advisory Board for the Texas State Historical Association.

**John Keahey:** Material Culture Specialist --Undergraduate and graduate degrees in Geology/Petrology with a minor in History. Extensive knowledge of historically accurate equipment, and clothing and reproduces the items using hand construction techniques. Professional presenter for several decades to school groups and adults on topics that range from classical Greece to the American frontier.

**Michael Moore:** Director of the Fort Bend Museum Association --B.A. and M.A. degrees in History & Public History and a strong background in living history programming. Created the Texian Market Days living history festival, and led development of the George Ranch Historical Park. Recipient of the "Leadership in Education" award (Texas State Historical Association), "Award of Merit" (Texas Historical Commission), and "Nancy Hanks Award for Museum Excellence"(American Association of Museums).



What's

**Description:** The *Texian Time Machine* is a comprehensive new outreach program which provides a true “Museum quality” educational experience without the costs and difficulties of student transportation. Incorporating the highest standards of authenticity, curriculum adherence, and creative programming, the Fort Bend Museum Association is proud to offer this professional presentation to school districts as both a very practical and innovative alternative to the traditional field trip.

**Methodology:** Through role-playing and hands-on activities, the *Texian Time Machine* provides an unparalleled living history experience to complement and enrich classroom instruction. The program is designed to completely embrace the curriculum requirements for the grade levels studying Texas history and will complement their textbook studies. The students will have the opportunity to actually engage in immersion activities that provide valuable insight into their classroom work. Program includes both pre-visit and post-visit suggested activities to enable Educators to fully incorporate the program into the classroom.

**Content:** The *Texian Time Machine* offers students the unique opportunity to experience colonial Texas during the 1820s and 1830s. The lifestyles of Austin’s Colony are recreated through costumed interpretations, hands-on activities, dramatic presentations, and musical performances. Six Core Modules and seven Enrichment Modules have been fully developed to provide an authentic and exciting living history experience while also closely meeting the objectives outlined in the *Texas Essential Knowledge & Skills* by the Texas Education Agency.

Depending upon your needs, the *Texian Time Machine* can bring up to twelve trained costumed staff and modules of interactive activities. It is designed for maximum flexibility and allows each Educator to customize the program to meet their specific needs.

**Core Curriculum Modules:**

Transportation  
Protection/Hunting  
Domestic Life  
Education  
Government/Citizenship  
Working the Land

**Optional Enrichment Modules:**

Native American  
Music & Dance  
Printing  
Blacksmithing  
Spinning & Weaving  
Colonial Religion  
Historical Personalities

**A sampling of Core Curriculum activities/demonstrations:**

Observing open-fire cooking  
Practicing land surveying  
Militia drilling  
Black powder musket firing demonstration  
Domestic chores  
Survival life skills  
Settling in 1830s frontier Texas  
Cultural interaction of Mexicans, Anglos and Native Americans





**When?**

**Product Development Phase:** Funded by a grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services in October of 2003. The official development began in November 2003 with the Project Team continuing to coordinate, refine, and re-evaluate.



*Grant reviewer—Institute of Museum and Library Services: The program seems like a wonderful opportunity for your community and students. It will help to bring history alive and meaningful for children and teachers and the cost appears reasonable for such an intensive day of immersion in historic recreation.*

**Public Debut:** Showcased at the BP Houston Children's Festival in April of 2004 for a general public audience of approximately 60,000 visitors. The prestigious festival benefits Child Advocates.



*CEO Sonya Galvan praised the partnership between the two organizations, "We are delighted to work together with the Fort Bend Museum to fulfill our mutual goals to provide a better future for children in all walks of life. I am very impressed with their new effort to extend their historical educational programs to benefit and serve such a greater audience."*

**School Pilot Program:** A two-day full scale program was launched at Tomball Jr. High and Willow Wood Jr. High in early May 2004 for 611 students.

*Official Teacher Evaluation: Overall experience ranked very high—average 7 on a scale of 10. Visual, artifacts, and hands-on experiences were great. Thought moving of the groups worked well. Students very excited about activities. Teachers felt that it was very worthwhile. Accuracy of information was high.*



**Fall 2004 - Spring 2005 Schedules:** The *Texian Time Machine* is available for a limited number of bookings during the Fall of 2004. A full production schedule will begin in Spring 2005. The program is available Monday through Friday.



Where?

**Space Requirements:** A large outdoor area, such as a playground. A grassy surface in or around any available shade trees is especially preferable. A finely manicured lawn like a football field may not be desirable due to any potential damage to the turf. A full 12 module program requires 100 by 200 ft area. Smaller programs can be scaled down accordingly.



**Set-Up/Take Down:** The Time Machine logistics crew will arrive on the day prior to the program date to set-up the canvas tents and unload the heavy equipment and supplies. Overnight parking for a trailer and truck is required. Time Machine presenters will arrive approximately 1 ½ hours prior to the beginning of program. All tents and equipment will be removed from the area immediately after completion of the program. Every attempt will be made to leave the area undisturbed.

**Special Considerations:** Several canvas tents will be erected which require that stakes be driven 8 to 12 inches into the ground. Please ensure that there are no water/gas/sprinkler lines which could be punctured. Prior administrative approval is needed for open-fire cooking or branding demonstration (using a fire pit or fire box) and/or a non-projectile musket-firing demonstration.

**Inclement Weather Arrangements:** Ten alternative indoor spaces must be reserved for most of the program components, in the event of inclement weather. Some activities can be adapted for classrooms, performance or rehearsal spaces, and media centers.

**Comfort:** Easy access to nearby restrooms and water fountains or water coolers for museum staff and program participants.

**Breaks:** Plan a time schedule for morning and/or afternoon sessions that allow a one hour lunch break for Time Machine staff



**Logistical Needs:** Nearby access to water faucet(s) for programming set-up and clean-up. Several garbage cans for clean-up during and following the program.

**Advance Preparation:** Prior coordination by educators to organize students into groups and provide instructions to students and chaperones regarding the program schedules and behavior expectations. Two adult chaperones per student group are required to supervise and assist throughout the students' participation.



How?

**System:** The *Texian Time Machine* is a modular system with each unit devoted to address a specific topic. The six Core Modules closely correlate with specific grade level curriculum and essential elements. The optional Enrichment Modules can be substituted to enhance the learning experience with additional related topics. Using this system, educators are able to easily customize the overall program to meet their specific sizes, needs or grades.

**Timing:** The *Texian Time Machine* is reserved in half day sessions. Each session consists of approximately 3 hours of instruction. To accommodate a greater number of students, educators may choose to have two sessions per day— morning and afternoon.

**Size:** The *Texian Time Machine* is designed to handle a maximum of 150 students per half day session or 300 students per full day (2 sessions). Minimum number of students is 60. The students are divided equally into Activity Groups corresponding with the number of modules. To ensure the best and most personal student experience, each activity group would ideally be limited to 22 students or less.

**Ages:** The *Texian Time Machine* has been developed for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. However, the program is easily adapted for a broad range of ages and we are happy to modify the program to fit your age group.

**Content:** If the full twelve-module *Texian Time Machine* is desired for your students, our staff will set-up two each of the following modules in order to accommodate the maximum number of students. Each student will have the opportunity to participate in all 6 modules. For a smaller student population, the program is flexible so it can be downsized accordingly.



**Core Curriculum Modules**

- Transportation
- Protection/Hunting
- Domestic Life
- Education
- Government/Citizenship
- Working the Land



Enrichment Modules can be substituted at no extra cost for one or more of the Core Curriculum Modules or can be added to the Core Curriculum for an additional fee. However, Enrichment Modules will be subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed throughout the year. In addition, not all students may be able to participate in the same enrichment modules due to the logistics of coordinating the school groups.

**Enrichment Modules (subject to availability)**

Native Americans  
Music & Dance  
Printing

Blacksmithing  
Spinning & Weaving  
Colonial Religion

Historical  
Personalities





## Description of Core Curriculum Modules

**Transportation:** Students are “Going to Texas” in this group problem-solving activity as each student team decides what their “family” must pack to survive, what to leave behind, and what happens to their family based on those decisions.

**Protection/Hunting:** Students “join” the militia as they practice a typical militia drill used in Colonial Texas. Learn the basics of frontier protection with a demonstration of a flintlock pistol, percussion rifle, and knife, in addition to the process of molding lead bullets.

**Domestic Life:** Learn about family roles and the distribution of labor in maintaining a frontier household. Cook cornbread over an open fire, grind or shell corn, and do laundry the old fashioned way. Make comparisons between households including those that are slaveholders.

**Education:** A pioneer school brings the basics to your students. They’ll practice writing on slate with chalk and receive instruction in writing with ink and quill. “Recess time” allows for games from early Texas such as Hoops & Sticks, Ball & Cup, and Nine Pins.

**Government/Citizenship:** Role-play to find out what newcomers faced in Texas when they settled in a part of the Republic of Mexico in the 1820s and early 1830s. Foreigners adapted to this new way of life – conducting business in Spanish, becoming Roman Catholic, and adopting a Mexican name.

**Working the Land:** Tame the land as the early settlers did! Experience surveying a plot of land, building a small-version log cabin, learn about ranching and try your hand at branding.

## Description of Enrichment Modules (Subject to availability)

**Native Americans:** Learn about the original native peoples of Texas. Compare their community to other cultures that shared Texas during the 1820s and early 1830s.

**Music & Dance:** Entertainment and culture thrived through people’s music and styles of dance. Dust off your dancing shoes for a kick-up-your heels fun time!

**The Print Shop:** Try your hand at the print-making process, the earliest form of communication and journalism in Texas. The printer’s printing press was the only means of providing news to the small communities sparsely populating early Texas.

**Blacksmithing:** See a demonstration of this ancient craft that requires great skill and knowledge of metals and extremes in heat.



## Booking Inquiry Form

(This is ***not*** a confirmation guaranteeing the *Texian Time Machine*. Your organization's contact person will receive a confirmation form and/or phone call from our staff regarding your request.)

### Pricing

For Large Groups of Students in Grades 3 and above:

12-module, 2 half-day sessions serving 150-300 students  
\$12.00 per student or \$2,300.00 minimum

6-module, 1 half-day session serving 60-150 students  
\$12.00 per student or \$1,260.00 minimum

Additional Enrichment Modules (call for pricing and availability)

We also offer customized classroom activities on pioneer life for smaller and/or younger groups, especially Grade 2 and under. Call for details.

### Program Information

All Day Program [150-300]     Half Day Program [less than 150]    Prefer  A.M.     P.M

Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_ Group Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Program Dates:    1<sup>st</sup> Choice: \_\_\_\_\_  
2<sup>nd</sup> Choice: \_\_\_\_\_    3<sup>rd</sup> Choice: \_\_\_\_\_

### Client Information

School [or Organization]: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ School FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_  Faculty or  PTO Rep.

If PTO Rep., alternative Phone Number to Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Means of Communication: Check One:     Phone     Email

Best Day/Time to Return Call, If Needed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return completed form to the Fort Bend Museum Association, P.O. Drawer 460, Richmond, Texas 77406 Fax (281) 342-2439 Phone (281)342-6478 E-mail: [timemachine@fortbendmuseum.org](mailto:timemachine@fortbendmuseum.org)**