

Rollin', Rollin', Rollin' – Keep Those Buses Rollin'!

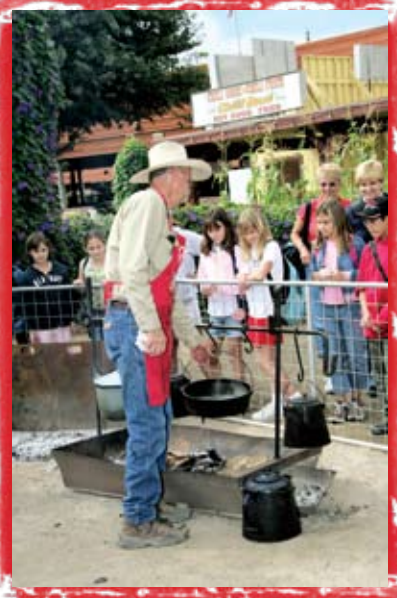
With nearly 100,000 students, teachers and chaperones entering the gates of the 2006 L.A. County Fair as part of the FairKids Discovery Club, the bus sponsorship program is definitely a success. But just imagine how many more children would flood through if there were more buses to transport them? Funding more buses is one of the goals set forth this year by the Fairplex Education Foundation.

"We've had a very successful bus program but we need to increase donations for bus sponsorships because there

are so many more schools who want to come to the Fair," said Jil Stark, Education Foundation chairwoman.

Fundraising for the bus program began in earnest in January. A new fund development committee for the Fairplex Education Foundation was recently formed, headed by Don Kendrick, and will work closely with Fairplex's seven community committees to reach out to businesses and local organizations.

To donate to the Big Yellow Bus program, contact Wendy Schwartz at (909) 865-4207.



A group of students witness a bit of the Old West on their field trip to the Fair.



Children fresh off the bus, eagerly awaiting their day at the Fair.



Molding the Future

If you've been away from a high school campus for awhile, you've undoubtedly forgotten the energy, the buzz that hovers over the grounds. Girls who gather in cliques – still – exchanging phone numbers and discussing homework assignments. Athletes proudly sporting their lettermen's jackets. Freshmen working on laptops – always trying to stay on top of things. So much energy. Electricity. Potential.

Fairplex is fortunate that it can tap into that potential – and nurture it – through its Junior Fair Board program. Open to high school juniors and seniors, students are offered a mentorship with Los Angeles County Fair Association (LACFA) board members and staff. The students receive a \$1,000 scholarship, gain hands-on work experience in various career paths and get an insider's look at the planning and implementation of the L.A. County Fair and year-round events at Fairplex. It's an excellent example of putting theory to practice.

"As I view the challenges of the future, I believe it is more important than ever to blend theory and practice in

the educational process," said Stephen Morgan, chairman of the LACFA board and president of the University of La Verne. Dr. Morgan is one of the mentors of the Junior Fair Board. "Opportunities for hands-on practical experience enhance the educational process for our young people. The Junior Fair Board experience provides such an opportunity."

This year, 23 student interns are on board, including Bonita High School junior Ryan Mansell, who finds the experience "amazing." "You get to participate in real world business and meet people who actually influence the community where I live," Ryan said. "I also get a scholarship and a fantastic opportunity to learn about business."

Chino Hills High School student Alexa Esse is just as diligent with her Junior Fair Board experience as she is with her school work. She has enjoyed her time working with the marketing and entertainment departments. "I feel the amount of dedication and effort I put in is what I will walk away with."

Fairplex is deeply committed to giving back to the community. Help the Fairplex Education Foundation enrich the lives of our future leaders by contributing to the scholarship fund. Contact Wendy Schwartz at (909) 865-4207.



(Above) Fairplex Education Foundation board member Don Kendrick and chair Jil Stark introduce members of the Junior Fair Board.



(Right) Fairplex Equine department administrative assistant Karen Poindexter assists Junior Fair Board member Alexa Esse.