

Summary OF Success

2024-2025 School Year

Dear Friends of CIS-SA,

As Co-Chairs of Friends of Communities In Schools of San Antonio (CIS-SA), we're excited to share our 2025 Summary of Success!

Thanks to your generosity, we expanded enrichment programs, deepened volunteer efforts, and funded over 30 field trips—including visits to the Witte Museum for more than 500 students. For many, it was their first time experiencing art, science, and history up close. One student said it best: "This is the best day ever."

These unforgettable moments remind students they matter—and it's all possible because of you.

As we look ahead, our Friends network is growing, our impact is deepening, and we're gearing up to **celebrate 40 years of CIS-SA and 16 years of Friends of CIS-SA**. We're so grateful for your continued support.

Memberships expire **August 31**. **Renew or join** today at www.cissa.org/friends to stay all in for kids—because we couldn't do this without you.

With heartfelt thanks,
Daliene Hendon & Mary Hogan
Co-Chairs, Friends of CIS-SA



Enrichment Program Impact

Thanks to the support of our Friends community, the 2024-2025 school year was filled with enriching, off-campus learning experiences that reminded students that the world is full of possibilities and that they deserve to be part of it.

A new enrichment opportunity this year included **Witte Museum** field trips for students across seven campuses, from elementary to high school. From learning about ancient art techniques to trying unfamiliar foods and seeing live animals up close, students were invited to step into new worlds. For many, it was their **first time visiting a museum** or having a catered meal. For others, it was a rare moment of peace, pride, and connection.

After a private tour of the Wild Habitats exhibit and a picnic lunch by the water, students expressed sincere gratitude for the experience. Several shared that it was their first visit to a museum of any kind, making it a truly unforgettable day.

See what our Site Coordinators and students shared:

"This is the best day ever."

– 4th grade student, Carvajal Campus



"The field trip gave my students a chance to break from their routine and see how their schoolwork connects to the real world. It helped them feel that their effort in school is valuable and made learning more exciting."

– Veronica, Mary Hull Elementary

"They got to learn new things about dinosaurs, including some that lived right here in San Antonio. The students listened, asked thoughtful questions, and were fully engaged."

– Alisa, Sinclair Elementary

With your continued support, we look forward to providing even more moments of inspiration, exploration, and joy for our students.



Volunteering: Moments That Last a Lifetime



We had **16 Friends** participate in our **Pen Pal program**, exchanging letters throughout the year with students at Mary Hull and Passmore Elementary. The joy of receiving a letter filled with encouragement creates a personal connection that many students had never experienced before.

On National Reading Day, **8 Friends and community volunteers read aloud** to students at Passmore Elementary.

We are incredibly proud of our growing volunteer program and the relationships it nurtures. If you joined us this year, thank you. If you're considering volunteering next year, we'd love to have you.



Friends Care: Helping Students Feel Seen and Supported

This year, Friends Care continued to provide small but powerful moments of care that reminded students that someone is always in their corner. With your generosity, we distributed over **20 Thanksgiving baskets, winter hats and scarves, and distributed 66 summer enrichment care packages that included toys and tools for outdoor play and art**. These simple acts offered warmth, joy, and access to opportunities that students may not have otherwise experienced. Whether it was a basket of groceries, a winter hat, or a soccer ball and jump rope, let students know they mattered. Thank you for helping us meet real needs in real time.



Renew Your Membership: New Membership Levels

We're thrilled to announce new membership levels designed to deepen your impact and enhance your connection to our work. Whether you're a university student, an individual, a family, or someone ready to become a BFF (Best Friend Forever), there's a level for everyone

- **University Student – \$20** | Impacts 1 student
- **Individual – \$50** | Impacts 2 students
- **Family – \$100** | Impacts 5 students
- **Best Friend – \$250** | Impacts 12 students
- **BFF – \$500** | Impacts 25 students

These are just examples of how your dollar can make a big difference. All members receive an invitation to our annual Fall Gathering. Higher-level members also enjoy special perks like a CIS-SA student-created gift and exclusive invitations to a private "Friends" social and museum tour.

