



## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### EDUCATION FOUNDATION RECEIVES \$550,000 GRANT TO SUPPORT FINE ARTS IN ECTOR COUNTY ISD

(Odessa, TX.) The Education Foundation of Odessa is excited to announce that they are the recipients of a grant from the **FMH Foundation** in the amount of **\$550,000** that will go towards the purchase of four new Steinway pianos for Odessa High School and Permian High School.

“We are so grateful to the FMH Foundation for this extraordinary grant,” says Celeste Potter, Education Foundation Director. “With these funds, our Fine Arts students will be able to have innovative musical experiences that will open up doors to new possibilities.”

The Permian Basin has a rich history of excellent Fine Arts programs but unfortunately, many of our ECISD facilities and equipment are several decades old. This grant will allow us to provide Odessa High School and Permian High School with superior instruments for student performances. These new pianos will equip each campus with the ability for distance education with several colleges and universities through state-of-the-art technology that provides opportunities for master classes, piano instruction, voice lessons, and guest performances.

“The astounding generosity of the FMH Foundation continues to bless our community. ECISD is incredibly grateful for receiving funding for 4 new Steinway Spririo Pianos. These premier instruments will elevate the Fine Arts performances in ECISD for decades to come. Since our venues host many region events, this donation will also positively impact our entire region.” - Dr. Aaron Hawley, Director of Fine Arts ECISD.

#### **About Education Foundation of Odessa**

The Education Foundation of Odessa is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, tax-exempt, philanthropic organization of citizens who share a vision of enhancing education in ECISD. The Education Foundation of Odessa provides a new and innovative source of funding to support the school district’s educational plan. The Foundation does not attempt to replace lost state funding, nor does it attempt to take the place of the district’s operating budget. When

considering the level of funding required to educate students, the Foundation can expect only to provide funds for those projects and activities that go beyond the normal classroom experience. Such initiatives provide enrichment, research opportunities, teacher training, intervention and prevention strategies and extend the educational effort.

The mission of the Education Foundation is to create opportunities for education in Ector County ISD. Our vision is that every student in ECISD will be school-ready, college-ready, work-ready... WORLD-READY!

Website: [www.educationfoundationodessa.org](http://www.educationfoundationodessa.org)

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/Education-Foundation-of-Odessa-260794134008596/?ref=hl>

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