

The program has grown to include over 300 students, including a class from the Harrity Elementary School in Philadelphia and students in Hartford, CT, and Cambridge, MA. To date 67 of the original Say Yes students have graduated from high school, with 19 matriculating at 4-year colleges and 21 at 2-year colleges. This number far exceeds the expectations of educational experts for students from similar economic backgrounds.

The stories of these students, dubbed the Belmont 112 by the Philadelphia Inquirer in periodic articles about the program, have touched the lives of many Philadelphians and inspired other sponsors to reach out to urban students.

It is because the success of programs like Say Yes to Education, that I introduced the 21st Century Scholar Act, H.R. 777. This act would notify elementary school students at the poorest public schools in the country that they would be eligible for the maximum Federal Pell grant award if they complete their high school education and gain admission into a postsecondary institution. In addition, my legislation would make available tutoring and mentoring services to these students through the existing Federal TRIO programs. The 21st Century Scholars Act implements the efforts of successful private early intervention programs, such as Say Yes to Education, on a national scale.

To mark the 10th anniversary of the Say Yes to Education Program, a reunion of student participants and sponsors will take place in Philadelphia on July 26, 1997.

I am pleased to honor the original Belmont Say Yes to Education students by entering their names into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD: Allen Alexander; Eric Alexander; Tanyell Alick; Dana Baynes; Jerell Baynes; Majovie Billups-Bland; Maurice Boone; Christopher Bradford; Mitchell Bronson; Shermika Brown; Walter Brown; Damion Caldwell; Tabitha Casper; Sekou Clark; David Cox-Sims; Kimberly Creamer; Zengo Daigre; Zeno Daigre; Jahleel Daniels.

James Davis; Solomon Davis; Troy Davis; William Dorsey; Frank Duckett; Craig Dunston; Anita Edwards; Micah Ellison; Jalina Evans; Mark Ferguson; Vedia Fisher; Tolanda Fortune; Craig Freeman; Gregg Freeman; Joelena Fuller; Lamont Goings; Ayenna Gomez; Yasmeen Grantham; Steven Guilford; Antoinette Harper; Mack Harvey; Mildrienne Hatten; Jerwayne Haywood; Kenneth Hilliard; Charles Hollerway; Micah Holliday; Jermaine Horton; Nicole Huff; Carol Jackson; Eugene Jackson; Tamika Jackson; Carmen James; Aronda Jenkins; James Johnson; Ravenel Johnson; Crystal Jones; Chantel Jones-Akers; Marvette Leatherberry; Sherlina Leatherberry; Christopher Lee; Latasha Lighty; Nickia Little; Genise Mace; Cedric Mallory; Richard Matthews.

Percy McKitthen; Charles Miles; Dellshon Miller; Sonny Miller; Vanessa Mitchell; Jarmaine Olliviere; William Payne; Ronald Pierce; Aaron Pitt; Shaheed Purnell; Joanne Randall; Nicole Randall; Kemeika Richardson; Rodana Robinson; Juanita Rollerson; Quentin Ross; Katrina Scruggs; Edwin Seals; Marc Seymour; Michael Shenoster; Harold Shields, Jr.; Orion Sistrunk; Tanisha Smalls; Cornell Smith; Jumar Smith; Larry Smith; Rodney Sowell; Janine Spruill; Dorothy Stewart; Jeremy Summers; Iva Supplee-Tate; Bradley Torrence; Horace Torrence; Montara Tyler;

Kenya Walker; Shantee Washington; Bryant Webster; Pauline White; Kelly Whitehead; Eric Whitney; Bill Wilcox; David Williams; Paul Williams; Tamika Williams; Tashioka Williams; Theresa Williams; Marvin Wilson; Christopher Wood.

I hope that all Members will take time to learn more about this important program and its successes as our Nation moves forward in its effort to revitalize education for all students.

SALUTING NASA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the excellent work being done by the scientists and engineers at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration [NASA]. NASA is an extremely important public agency and its vast array of work including space, science, aeronautics, global environment, and education, benefits the Nation on a number of levels.

Under the direction of Administrator Daniel Goldin, current NASA operations are both dynamic and productive. Mr. Goldin has been an agent of positive change and reform. Programs are being carried out faster and cheaper. His dedication to the international space station has promoted an atmosphere in which nations from around the world have been willing to work in partnership. His efforts in seeking the inclusion of the Russian space agency are particularly noteworthy. They demonstrate the impact that the space program can have on international relations, encouraging cooperation toward peace. A United States and Russian joint space program is something that could never have even been dreamed of when cold war divisions were prevalent. The program highlights the mutual interests and mutual benefits of peace shared by our two great nations.

Of the many missions which NASA is currently working on, Mars Pathfinder, which landed on July 4, 1997, is the highlight. The mobile geological studies of Mars which are currently being carried out, are extremely innovative and educational. I would like to commend the brilliant scientists and engineers of NASA for the success of this mission.

NASA's international space station [ISS], phase I, has sought to collaborate international efforts in order to place into orbit and monitor American astronauts in space.

NASA's Mission to Planet Earth [MTPE] and the Earth Observing System [EOS] have provided, and are continuing to provide, key data on the Earth's global climate change. The program, designed by the talented engineers and staff of TRW, headquartered in the Cleveland area, endeavors to evaluate the interaction between the elements and the effects of natural and human-induced changes on the global environment. In the past the program has helped us to understand about the ozone layer and the effects and causes of destructive natural phenomena. At this time there are a number of scientific instruments aboard various spacecraft which are monitoring climatic trends.

A driving force behind the success of NASA's missions is the work carried out by the Cleveland based Lewis Research Center

[LeRC]. The Mars Pathfinder mission is one in which LeRC has an important role. The geological experiments being carried out by the Sojourner rover on Mars were formulated by LeRC scientists. The Lewis team is also a major participant in microgravity research. The near zero gravity experimentation has been successfully used over 80 times on 30 different missions. Eleven NASA Lewis experiments are part of the microgravity science laboratory aboard the space shuttle. These experiments will be invaluable in providing a bridge between present operations and those operations to be conducted in the near future aboard the ISS.

As impressive as all of these programs are, perhaps NASA's biggest achievement lies in the fact that all of the above has been conducted while reducing spending.

The Appropriations Committee proposed a fiscal year 1998 budget of \$13,648,000,000. As each fiscal year budget passes, projected NASA future spending shrinks. Productivity, however, has been maximized. The Earth Observing System program, for example, was in fiscal year 1991 forecast by NASA to require \$17 billion of public funds through the year 2000. In the fiscal year 1996 budget plan this projection had been reduced to \$7.2 billion. NASA has managed to achieve more with less.

One reason for the NASA success story is the cooperative interaction with commercial institutions and the links forged with their international counterparts. By collaborating with private sector organizations, NASA has been able to restructure certain of its operations while still achieving the desired results. For example, the technology generated by NASA in detecting and tracking tornadoes, has been used by commercial weather stations. Such links have produced a catalyst enabling more research and development to be undertaken.

Mr. Speaker, NASA is the unparalleled world leader in space technology, enabling this country to maintain world leadership in science technology and in aeronautics research and in space exploration. I salute the thousands of NASA employees who help to make the program possible.

NIKOLAI IVANOVICH GETMAN:
ARTIST OF THE SOVIET GULAG

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the accomplishments of Soviet born artist, Nikolai Getman, a refugee of the Soviet Gulag, the immense series of prison camps that extended across the length and breadth of the former Soviet Union. His paintings have given us a unique insight into the ghastly life of the Gulag. This exhibition, a collection of paintings depicting life at the Gulag, is of immense historical importance. Over the past several months the Jamestown Foundation, a nonprofit organization which focuses on the former Soviet Union, has raised funds to bring these paintings to the United States and save them from possible destruction. The paintings will be available for viewing in the Rotunda of the Russell Senate Office Building between July 21 and July 25.

In 1946, Soviet police imprisoned Nikolai Getman in the Gulag, the Soviet Union's state operated system of prisons and forced labor camps. He is one of the millions of victims of Josef Stalin's purges and political repressions. Getman's crime was that he had been present in a cafe with several fellow artists, one of whom drew a caricature of Stalin on a cigarette paper. An informer told the authorities about the drawing, and the entire group was arrested for anti-Soviet behavior. Getman spent 8 years in Siberia at the Kolyma labor camp where he witnessed one of the darkest periods of Soviet history. Although he survived the camp, the horrors of the Gulag were burned into his memory. Upon his release in 1954, Getman returned to his career as a painter, painting prominent members of state.

In secret, however, he drew many pictures depicting his memories of the camps. He told no one, not even his wife, what he was doing because to do so meant risking imprisonment or even death. Despite the danger, he undertook the project believing that he must record the plight of the millions of dead prisoners so their fate would not be forgotten. For more than four decades, Getman worked at his task of creating a visual record of the Gulag. During those years, his secret collection grew to 50 paintings which depict all aspects of life in the camps.

The Getman collection is outstanding. It is the only known visual record to exist of this tragic period in Soviet history. If film or other visual representations of the Soviet Gulag existed, they have been largely destroyed or suppressed. The Getman collection stands alone as a most unique historical document.

Getman, now 79, lives in Oryol, Russia. He feared that when he died his paintings would be destroyed or sold off. He asked the Jamestown Foundation to assist him in moving the paintings to a place of safety in the West and to develop a plan for their preservation and exhibition. After 6 months of effort, the paintings are now safely in the United States.

It is important that Nikolai Getman's painting act as a public reminder, a means of education, and a testament to the more than 50 million people who died in one of the most vicious and brutal acts of political repression. Getman's perservance, determination, and bravery, as well as the hard work of the people at the Jamestown Foundation, have guaranteed that the visual record of the atrocities exists despite concerted attempts on the part of the Russian authorities to make the memories disappear. Mr. Speaker, I take great pride in the fact that the first exhibition of such important works will take place inside the U.S. Congress.

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVERS

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 1997

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I am concerned about efforts by some of my colleagues to prohibit any further action on the American Heritage Rivers Initiative, which was proposed by President Clinton in his State of the Union Address earlier this year.

In the committee report accompanying the Agriculture Appropriations Act for fiscal year

1998, H.R. 2160, language is included stipulating that "Funds for [the American Heritage Rivers] initiatives are not available until justification and reprogram requests are approved." In addition, Representative HELEN CHENOWETH has introduced a bill to prohibit any further action on the initiative.

I am a very strong supporter of this initiative and am working very actively with my colleagues along the Rio Grande River to submit a proposal for consideration for designation as 1 of the first 10 rivers to be designated.

The Rio Grande River is rich in history, with dramatic contrasts. Some stretches offer incredible scenery and a pristine environment, while others are marred by the stench of pollution that threatens public health. For roughly 1,000 miles, the Rio Grande, known in Mexico as the Rio Bravo, serves as an international boundary. The river has provided the water needed for border towns to grow into sister cities. It has nurtured industry, agriculture, and the development of commerce on both sides of the border, but demand for its water is exceeding supply in many places. How we secure the quantity and quality of water needed from the Rio Grande and other sources will be crucial to the prospects for sustaining growth for our region in the 21st century.

The possibility for designation of the Rio Grande as an American Heritage River offers an opportunity for communities along the Rio Grande to work together and gain easier, more direct access to existing Federal assistance. The designation would help us celebrate our heritage, draw attention to the natural wonders of our river and, at the same time, address very real and complex challenges facing its wonders of our river and, at the same time, address very real and complex challenge facing its future. Proposals for designation will be evaluated on whether the plans have strong or solid community support which involve partnerships between the public and private sectors.

The Federal Government is to offer a partnership determined by the needs of the local communities, offering them ways to cut through redtape and develop innovative arrangements for new or existing objectives. There are to be no new regulations or standards, and property rights are not to be impaired.

It is important to note that this opportunity comes at the same time that the Texas legislature has passed a major overhaul of our State's water law to help communities and regions work together in planning for the future. The Rio Grande was cited as a special case and agencies were instructed to seek Federal assistance.

Regional councils of government along the border are meeting now to frame a proposal to be sent to the White House on behalf of those local jurisdictions that wish to participate. The proposed partnership is to have key Federal agencies assist the communities of the Rio Grande develop the long-term assessments of their water needs called for by the water plan that Governor George Bush recently signed into law. A broader partnership is being proposed under which the Federal, State and local authorities working with business and civic groups will assist Rio Grande communities to participate in the 1998 Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington, DC. That year's festival will focus on the Rio Grande/Rio Bravo and provide a unique opportunity for us

to share our rich heritage with over 1 million visitors.

A focus on the Rio Grande is something Texas can get behind. We are proud of our river and want to assert our stake in its future. The proposed being drafted will make sure that Federal jurisdiction is not expanded, that no new regulations are imposed as a result of the designation, and that no one's property rights or water rights are affected. Our effort is being designed and managed by Texans on behalf of a heritage we share with our neighbors and fellow Americans.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting the American Heritage Rivers Initiative and opposing efforts to kill this important initiative.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I am submitting for the record a list of questions I submitted to the Council on Environmental Quality and the responses I received. I believe this documents answers all of the concerns that have been expressed by citizens and my colleagues.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY,

Washington, DC, July 18, 1997.

Hon. SILVESTRE REYES
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE REYES: Thank you for your recent letter requesting additional information on the American Heritage Rivers initiative. I appreciate your continued support and outstanding leadership in the Congress. I have attached answers to the 25 questions. I hope this information is helpful to you.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

KATHLEEN A. MCGINTY, *Chair*.

Enclosure.

ANSWERS IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS SUBMITTED REGARDING THE AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVERS INITIATIVE

1. Q: Can the designation be, in effect, a contract between the local jurisdictions and the federal government in which the terms, the scope and the limitations of the designation are set out clearly and agreed upon by all parties?

A: There is nothing in the initiative that requires applicants to enter into any type of agreement with the federal government. Designation is the recognition of local communities' efforts to enhance and protect their river resources.

As a practical matter, the federal government cannot enter into "contracts," in the legal sense, with communities. However, the federal government often enters into Memoranda of Understanding with state, tribal and local governments and nongovernmental organizations. Designated communities will have the option of entering into Memoranda of Understanding at the local level to explain the terms, scope and limitations of designation and how they want to work with federal agencies.

2. Q: Will a designation carry with it any new federal regulation, mandate, or increased eligibility standards? Can that be asserted in a designation proclamation?

A: No. Designation as an American Heritage River will not carry with it any new federal regulation, mandate or increased eligibility standards.

As stated in the Federal Register Notices of May 19 and June 10, "The [American Heritage Rivers] initiative will create no new regulatory requirements for individuals or state and local governments." This can be asserted in a designation proclamation.