

COUNTRY MUSIC STAR JAKE OWEN HEADLINES THE 12TH ANNUAL ANDY RODDICK FOUNDATION GALA

By Naomi Richard | VILLAGER Contributor

AUSTIN, TX - The 12th Annual Andy Roddick Foundation Gala brought together approximately 1,500 supporters, friends, partners and concert-goers for an evening of celebration and music. The evening featured a cocktail reception, a lively auction, an elegant dinner and an exciting live concert by Jake Owen at the world-famous Austin City Limits Live at The Moody Theater.

The Austin Villager Newspaper enjoyed the evening of elegance benefiting our students like Ms. Tariah as an invited media outlet.

The gala annually attracts the biggest names in music and entertainment. Past artists include Elton John, John Legend and Lionel Richie, raising over \$7 million to improve the lives of Central Texas children since 2012.

Andy Roddick was nine years old when he realized what he was born to do. These days, he devotes his life to recreating that moment, over and over again – but not for himself. It turns out that one of the greatest tennis players of all time was born not just to pursue his own passion, but to help others discover theirs.

“Let’s expose kids to everything, and let’s hope something sticks with them,” Roddick says. “That moment I had at



Country singer Jake Owen. Photo courtesy of the Andy Roddick Foundation.



Andy Roddick Foundation student Tariah and her mom. Photo by Naomi Richard.

nine, when I picked up a tennis racket and it clicked with me – it built my self-esteem and gave me a sense of self-worth at a young age because I could do something well. That’s the moment we’re trying to hit with kids. And we’re going to give them every

chance to find it.”

Through high-quality afterschool activities developed in cooperation with the Austin Independent School District, as well as an acclaimed six-week summer program, investing in innovative summer activities, and other joint initiatives with key groups throughout the city, the Foundation creates new chances for all kids to grow in literacy, STEM, art, and sports — all during months and times of day when statistics show they’re typically most at risk and falling behind.

Whether by heart or by hand, the Foundation’s founder, board of directors, staff and supporters are dedicated to treating everyone fairly, and to promoting education and creating positive experiences for children.

Six Square Earns Preservation Award for Stewardship of Down’s Field

Courtesy of Nefertitti Jackmon | Executive Director/Six Square



Kimberly McKnight, Rev. Freddie Dixon, and Nefertitti Jackmon

AUSTIN, Texas - Six Square, Austin’s Black Cultural District, is proud to accept the Preservation Award for Stewardship of Down’s Field. This work was accomplished through the collaborative efforts of many partners including The Friends of Downs Field, Rosewood Neighborhood Contact Team, City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department, City of Austin Public Works Department, and Huston-Tillotson University. We are especially honored to join past recipients and the 2017 awardees.

Our work preserving and celebrating the legacy of Austin’s first black baseball field continues with more than a half a million dollars of improvements. Downs Field is a tribute to the perseverance of the African American spirit, a cultural asset for Austin and the entire nation as we honor America’s great pastime and the legacy of the Negro Baseball League.

SPOTLIGHT ON BUSINESS! Country Boyz Fixinz



Country Boyz Fixinz has been at this location for four years (4140 East 12th Street). We would like to take this opportunity to Thank Our Loyal Customers, who have and continue to support us. We strive to create and cook the best Home Cooked food, food that feeds the soul as well as the body. We are family owned and operated. Owned by Thera Williams, who grew up on the Eastside. Williams enjoys making quality home cooked Daily Lunch Specials that usually last until 2:00 pm most days. We, the Country Boyz Family would like to thank the Austin and Manor communities for their loyal support. Yes, we have two locations to serve you. We welcome catering jobs. Call us now about our Thanksgiving Catering options: Smoked Turkey, Fried Turkey, Dressing with Gravy, Greens, Yams and Greens.

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