

# The ABCs of TXST

How many of these university facts do you know?

# A

**"ALMA MATER,"** written by original faculty member Jessie Allison Sayers in the early 1900s to the tune of the hymn "Ancient of Days."

# B

**BOBCAT**, has been the mascot of Texas State University since 1921. In 1964, "Boko" was the name chosen by sophomore Beth Greenlees, who beat out 100 other students in a "Name the Bobcat" contest.



# G

**GAILLARDIA**, the official school flower. Gaillardia Hall is a 306-bed residence that opened in 2012. It received Gold LEED certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.



# I

**INGRAM, BRUCE AND GLORIA INGRAM HALL** — home to the College of Science and Engineering. With more than 166,000 square feet of space, Ingram Hall is the largest academic building on the San Marcos Campus.



# C

## COMMON EXPERIENCE

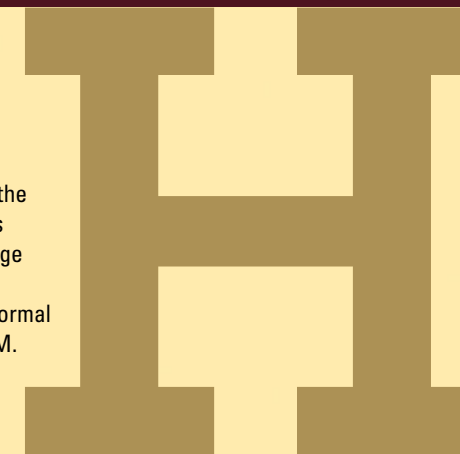
Texas State presents an academic theme each year with related events for everyone. Freshmen are provided the year's selected book related to the theme and discuss it in University Seminar and other courses.



Award-winning actor/hip-hop artist Common speaking onstage.



**HOMECOMING**, is one of the longest-running traditions on campus. The first college football game in 1921 saw Southwest Texas State Normal College lose to Texas A&M. The score was 28-0.



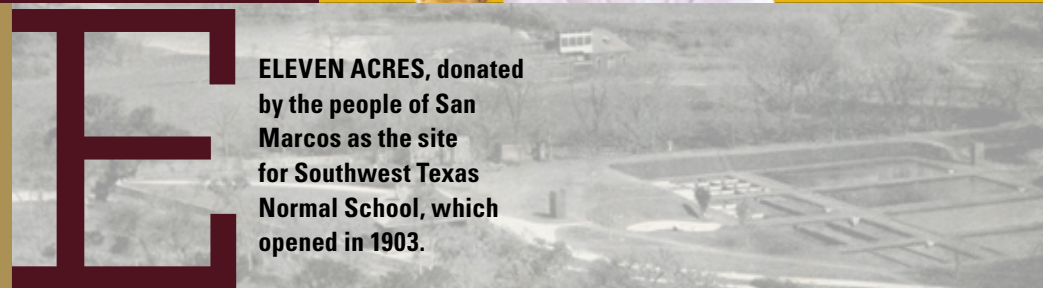
# D

**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI**, established in 1959, the award has honored 213 graduates since the first one was given to U.S. Sen. Lyndon Baines Johnson.



# E

**ELEVEN ACRES**, donated by the people of San Marcos as the site for Southwest Texas Normal School, which opened in 1903.



# F



**FIGHTING STALLIONS**, a 1951 gift from sculptor Anna Hyatt Huntington. Traditionally it has been considered a free speech area, although this designation applies to the entire Texas State campus. In years past, students rubbed the statue for good luck before exams.

# J

**JACKSON HALL** is a 12-story traditional residence named for Ernest Bryan Jackson, who served as a university librarian. Opened in 1967, it originally was a men's dormitory for 440 students.



# K

**J.C. KELLAM**, or JCK, was originally the Library-Administration building when it opened in 1969. Kellam (B.S. '23) was a close friend of LBJ and a regent of The Texas State University System from 1961 to 1967.

# L

**LANTANA HALL**, opened in time for the 1962-1963 school year. A traditional, women-only residence, it has 239 beds.





# The ABCs of TXST

How many of these university facts do you know?

# M

**McCOY**  
The McCoy College of Business celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2020. McCoy Hall opened in 2006. The building was under construction when Emmett and Miriam McCoy pledged a \$20 million gift to the university.



# N

## NURSING

St. David's School of Nursing, located on the Round Rock Campus, opened in 2010 with a class of 100 juniors. In 2013, the family nurse practitioner M.S.N. program was launched.



## OLD MAIN

The red-roofed, castle-like landmark was Texas State's first building and the only structure on campus when it opened in 1903. Today, it houses the College of Fine Arts and Communication and the School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

# T

## "T" ASSOCIATION

A service organization of former Texas State athletes and letter winners founded in 1920.



# U

## UNIVERSITY CAMP

A 126-acre spread along the Blanco River near Wimberley. It is available

for recreational use by faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

# V

**VICTORY STAR**, first appeared at Christmas 1936 atop a campus water tower.

Traditionally, it was turned on when the Bobcats won a football game. Today, the star is on the side of the University Events Center.



# W

**WACKER FIELD**, named after legendary coach and athletic director Jim Wacker, who led the Bobcats to back-to-back NCAA Division II football championships in 1981 and 1982.

# P

## PEDAGOG

The university's yearbook was published from 1904 to 1999, except for 1976 to 1983.



# Q

**THE QUAD** is the tree-lined mall between academic buildings on the San Marcos Campus. This is where student organizations hold fundraisers and promote events.



# X

## XYLOPHONE

In November 1919, the 16-member marching band took to the field during halftime of a game between Southwest Texas State Normal College and San Marcos Baptist Academy. In 2020, 325 students participated in the Bobcat Marching Band — including one xylophone player, international studies major Kyle Hutcheson.



# Y

**YANCY YARBROUGH** (B.S. '24), was principal at San Marcos High School for 30 years, a World War II Air Force veteran, associate professor of public school administration, president of the Alumni Association, and a 1979 Texas State Distinguished Alumnus.

# Z



**ZAMORA**, the first Hispanic to attend Southwest Texas State Normal School was Maria Elena Zamora, 1906 to 1911. She was a teacher, author (*El Mesquite*), and lay historian. ☺

# R

**RODEO CLUB**, begun in 1950, was one of the university's recreational clubs for more than 40 years.



# S

## STRUTTERS

Established in 1960 under Barbara Guinn Tidwell, the precision dance team has performed at three presidential inauguration parades, in feature films, and at NFL halftime shows.