

SNAPSHOTS

Engineering company awards grant to Arts Council for student art supplies

When an engineering company ABB, Inc., a global leader in power and automation technologies based in Zurich, acquired Prairieville-based K-TEK Corporation, they were interested in technology and the local community. After the acquisition, Robert Reynolds, an employee of ABB and a Denham Springs resident, learned of ABB's community enrichment donations.

Since Reynolds' special interest was The Arts Council of Livingston Parish, he worked with then-president of The Arts Council of Livingston Parish, Judy Averte, to apply for an ABB grant. In December, they were awarded \$10,000 for art supplies. The Arts Council then added \$2,000 to the donation to round out the number so they could provide each primary school in Livingston Parish with \$500 for supplies.

"We couldn't be more thrilled to provide this generous gift to our schools during a time when budgets are so limited," said Averte. "Colored pencils, brushes, modeling clay, canvases ... whatever the art supplies, these are important tools that help creativity bloom in our children."

ABB's John Schmidt, General Manager of the factory, stated that the company has a strong history in supporting education and community efforts.

"It's important to nurture creativity throughout our lives, from the earliest years on," says Schmidt. "Whether you're painting the Mona Lisa or developing new level measurement technology, it's a win for our world. Adding K-TEK to the ABB Measured Products business unit has been a win-win-win for K-TEK, ABB, and the Baton Rouge area."

The Arts Council of Livingston Parish is a 501 C-3 non-profit organization. Their mission is to promote the diverse artistic and cultural resources of Livingston Parish. They support established and emerging artistic endeavors and stimulate public for the arts. Communities with strong arts and cultural values have strong economic and educational advantages. The ACLP ensures a rich, multifaceted heritage for present and future generations.



Representatives of ABB Engineering and the Livingston Parish Arts Council met at Train Station Park in Denham Springs to announce a grant that ABB is giving to the Council for art supplies for elementary students. Standing in front and holding the signs from left to right are John Schmidt, ABB General Manager; Robert Reynolds, ABB employee and member of the Arts Council; and at far right, Judy Averte, Arts Council treasurer; and Michael Verrett, Arts Council president. Standing behind them is a representative from each of the elementary schools in Livingston Parish.

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