

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

May 8, 2014

## **For Immediate Release**

**Contact:**      **Robert Herman**  
Public Information Officer  
(559) 733-6606 – office  
(559) 303-8568 – cell

**Tulare County Office of Education Announces:**

## **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Slick Rock Student Film Festival May 17**

**High School Premiere Cut showings begin at 9:00 a.m.; RESTATE Student Art Exhibition begins at 5:00 p.m.; Red Carpet Walk begins at 5:30 p.m.; and Awards Ceremony begins at 7:00 p.m.**

**Visalia Fox Theatre, 308 W. Main St., Visalia**

The 11<sup>th</sup> annual Slick Rock Student Film Festival – Central California’s largest student film competition – is scheduled for Saturday, May 17 at the Fox Theatre in downtown Visalia. This year, the festival received over 400 film entries.

The high school films receiving a “Premiere Cut” designation will be screened continuously at the theater beginning at 9:00 a.m. Saturday morning until about 4:00 p.m. A screening schedule will be available at [www.SlickRockFestival.org](http://www.SlickRockFestival.org) on Monday, May 12.

At 5:00 p.m., students who participated in the RESTATE Program this semester will hold an art exhibition on Encina Street. RESTATE, which was created by Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) to reduce the stigma of mental illness, has been implemented by the Tulare County Office of Education’s CHOICES Prevention Programs program in 10 Tulare and Kings county high schools. RESTATE students will exhibit artworks to promote awareness and understanding of the mental health issues students, their friends and families may face.

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At 5:30, students who played a central role in producing Slick Rock "Premiere Cut" films (along with their advisors) are eligible to participate in the Limo/Red Carpet Walk. The awards ceremony will begin at 7:00 p.m. The public is welcome to attend the screenings and the awards ceremony at no cost.

Middle and high school students in the seven South Central Valley counties of Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced and Tulare were eligible to compete in the festival. Middle school students could enter films in seven categories, while high school students (grades 9-12), had a choice of 14 categories. For a list of competition categories, visit [www.SlickRockFestival.org](http://www.SlickRockFestival.org).

“We are delighted that participation in the Slick Rock Film Festival continues to grow,” says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. “Through Slick Rock, students are gaining the 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning skills they will need for success in college and the workplace.”

Slick Rock is generously supported by the Tulare & Kings Counties Suicide Prevention Task Force, the Tulare County Film Commission, Tulare County Step Up Initiative, and ABC30. For more information, visit [www.SlickRockFestival.org](http://www.SlickRockFestival.org) or call CHOICES Prevention Programs at (559) 651-0155.

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