

## **Tulare Kings College and Career Collaborative to hold third annual Counselor Conference, registration still open**



Primary, secondary and post-secondary educators, industry partners, and representatives from workforce investment boards are invited to register for the third annual Tulare Kings College and Career Collaborative (TKCCC) Counselor Conference scheduled for January 28 in the Redwood Conference Center. The focus of this year's event is data and its role in unlocking students' success. "The need for school counselors to connect student data to their daily work is very important in today's world of college and career preparation," said Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Tim Hire. "The conference promises to be a great opportunity for educators to network with colleagues and expand their abilities to utilize data for successful post-secondary student transitions."

The conference will feature keynote speaker Terri Tchorzynski, who was the 2017 National School Counselor of the Year as selected by the American School Counselor Association. Ms. Tchorzynski is now the assistant director of professional development and lead professional development specialist at Hatching Results – an organization that has provided professional development, grant writing, evaluation, and consultation for school counselors, administrators, and school districts



nationwide. Ms. Tchorzynski is a strong advocate for the development of comprehensive, data-driven counseling programs, career development, and Career Technical Education. The conference will also feature numerous breakout sessions addressing the exploration of career options, creating an equitable multi-tiered support system for students, staff, and families, transforming data reports into practical student interventions, and addressing the needs of foster youth and students with various special needs.

The conference is \$175 per person, but free for TKCCC partners. Registration is available through January 21. Additional information is available at [tkccc.org/event/3rdAnnualCC](http://tkccc.org/event/3rdAnnualCC).

*Photo above:*

*~ Terri Tchorzynski, 2017 National School Counselor of the Year, will be the keynote presenter at the TKCCC Counselor Conference on January 28.*

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## **Mock Trial competition begins next week**



The public is invited to watch 15 Tulare County high school teams compete in the annual Tulare County Mock Trial Competition beginning next week. The teams represent Dinuba High School, El Diamante High School (Visalia), Exeter Union High School, Granite Hills High School (Porterville), Lindsay High School, Mission Oak High School (Tulare), Mt. Whitney High School (Visalia), Orosi High School,

Redwood High School (Visalia), Tulare Union High School, Tulare Western High School, and University Preparatory High School (Visalia). Four preliminary competitions will be held January 21, 23, 28 and 30 at Tulare County Courthouses in both Visalia and Porterville. The semifinal round will be held February 6 at 5:00 p.m. at the Tulare County Courthouse in Visalia. The finals will take place in the Redwood Conference Center, 6200 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia on February 18 at 5:00 p.m.

This year, students are prepared to argue the case of *People v. Matsumoto* at the trial of Bailey Matsumoto, founder of a technology start-up that develops autonomous (self-driving) trucks. Bailey is charged with the murder of Taylor Matsumoto, his spouse. The prosecution alleges that after Taylor's son Michael died in a tragic accident using one of Bailey's malfunctioning autonomous scooters, Taylor founded an organization called Parents Against Autonomous Driving (PAAD). Taylor's involvement in PAAD began to financially impact Bailey's autonomous truck company. The prosecution further argues that the couple's relationship rapidly deteriorated. Just days before Taylor was set to testify in Washington, D.C., in support of a bill titled National Moratorium on Autonomous Technologies, Taylor was found dead, face down in the couple's bathtub. The prosecution claims that Bailey murdered Taylor with premeditation in order to prevent her from testifying.

"I would like to thank the advisors and attorney coaches who spend hours preparing Tulare County teams for the competition," said Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Tim Hire. "The knowledge of our legal system and the public speaking and research skills they are helping build will benefit students in any profession they choose."

The winners of the Tulare County Mock Trial competition will advance to the state competition scheduled for March 20-22 in Los Angeles. For more information, visit [tcoe.org/MockTrial](http://tcoe.org/MockTrial).

*Photo above:*

*~ The Mock Trial competition kicks off Tuesday, January 21, with 15 Tulare County teams arguing the fictitious case People v. Matsumoto. The case involves the trial of Bailey Matsumoto, founder of a technology start-up that develops autonomous trucks. Bailey is charged with the murder of Taylor Matsumoto, his spouse.*

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## Coaches and athletic directors invited to *Pursuing Victory With Honor* training February 26

Coaches, athletic directors, administrators, officials, and other youth leaders are invited to register for the Tulare County Office of Education's *Pursuing Victory With Honor* sportsmanship workshop. This in-service will help attendees utilize their coaching skills to build better character among student athletes, spectators and officials. The workshop takes place on February 26 from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the Redwood Conference Center, 6200 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia.



To register to attend this free workshop, please visit [tulare.k12oms.org/1530-178207](http://tulare.k12oms.org/1530-178207), or call Kelley Petty, CHARACTER COUNTS! program coordinator, at (559) 740-4303.



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# SLICKROCK

STUDENT | FILM | FESTIVAL

**Students encouraged to submit their entries to the annual Slick Rock Student Film Festival by March 6**

Video entries for the 2020 Slick Rock Student Film Festival are due before midnight on March 6. Middle and high school students living in Tulare, Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, or Merced counties may enter videos in a total of 18 categories.

In the Public Service Announcement (PSA) category – which has both a middle and high school category – students can address a variety of current topics, including the importance of voting in upcoming elections and participating in the 2020 National Census. New this year is a category entitled “Rising Above: Changing the Tide of Preventable Conditions.” The category, which is open to middle and high school students, is supported by Kaweah Delta Medical Center. Through it, students are encouraged to address the importance of health maintenance in preventing conditions such as obesity, type 2 diabetes, asthma, and heart disease – conditions that often affect Central Valley residents.



Also new this year is a Best of Show Award for middle school students. This award, along with the Best of Show Award for high school students, will be determined by judges who feel they represent the top films in the festival.

Visit [tcoe.org/SlickRock](http://tcoe.org/SlickRock) for information on film categories, deadlines, and the awards ceremony, which will be held at the Visalia Fox Theater on May 8.

*Photo above:*

*~ Mario Landeros of El Diamante High School won the Best of Show Award for 2019 for his film, Hawthorne Animations. For 2020, Slick Rock Student Film Festival will provide a Best of Show Award for both middle and high school films.*

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## Coming Up!

- **January 18**  
**Student Tech Showdown**  
8:00am - 2:00pm, Porterville Military Academy, 900 Pioneer Ave., Porterville  
[More information](#)
- **January 21, 23, 28, 30, February 6, 18**  
**Tulare County Mock Trial**  
5:00 - 8:00pm, Tulare County Courthouse, Visalia  
[More information](#)

- **January 21 - February 28**  
**Student Art Exhibition**  
TCOE Administration Building Lobby, 6200 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia  
[More information.](#)
- **January 23**  
**University Preparatory High School Information Night**  
6:00 - 7:00pm, COS Visalia campus, Yokut Room 9, 915 S. Mooney Blvd.  
[More information](#)
- **January 24**  
**Planetarium Public Shows**  
**6:00pm: *Perfect Little Planet***  
**7:00pm: *Black Holes: The Other Side of Infinity***  
TCOE Planetarium & Science Center, 11535 Avenue 264, Visalia  
[More information](#)

View more events at [tcoe.org/CalendarofEvents](http://tcoe.org/CalendarofEvents).

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To receive *News Gallery Week*, visit [tcoe.org/GetTheGallery](http://tcoe.org/GetTheGallery), or contact Jennifer Fisher at [jenniferf@tcoe.org](mailto:jenniferf@tcoe.org) or (559) 733-6172.

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