

news galleryweek

February 5, 2020

Poetry Out Loud set for Friday evening at 210 Café



Poetry Out Loud is moving this year – downtown to 210 Café where the audience can enjoy their favorite coffee along with poetry recited by the top students in the county. Each year, Tulare County Poetry Out Loud gives one student a chance to advance to the state championship. This year, the top finishers from Central Valley Christian, Tulare Union, and Mission Oak high schools will vie for the opportunity to represent Tulare County at the California state finals in Sacramento, March 15-16.

The competition will begin at 6:00 p.m. on February 7 at 210 Café, located at 210 West Center in downtown Visalia. Two-time champion Gabrielle Trapse from Tulare Union High School will return to the competition on Friday.



Poetry Out Loud is the nation's largest youth poetry recitation competition, which promotes the development of public speaking skills, improved English-fluency and comprehension, and self-confidence. In California, over 40,000 students from 40 counties compete annually. Unlike other poetry competitions, there are no costumes, props, or sets allowed in Poetry Out Loud. Students must select their poems from an anthology of over 900 classic and contemporary poems, spanning a variety of cultures and genres. Participants recite their chosen poems, using only their voices to convey all of the emotion and energy of the printed word.

For more information on Poetry Out Loud, call Kate Stover at (559) 741-0809.

Photo above:

~ Past Poetry Out Loud champion Gabrielle Trapse of Tulare Union High School returns to the competition on Friday, February 7.

El Diamante returns to capture Academic Decathlon title



Visalia's El Diamante High School returned on Saturday to the annual Tulare County Academic Decathlon to capture the championship for the second year in a row. This year, the El Diamante team, under the leadership of Mikk Jolly, earned the top prize in the Super Quiz competition, the large school category, and the honor to represent Tulare County in the state finals March 27-28 in Sacramento.



All Academic Decathlon teams are comprised of 2-3 students in each of three grade divisions: Honors (GPA 3.75-4), Scholastic (GPA 3-3.74), and Varsity (GPA 0-2.99). The top students in

the three categories were all from El Diamante High School. Yibo Liang (Honors), Carol Huang (Scholastic), and Carter House (Varsity) took home the top individual trophies. Woodlake High School captured the small school division title. For a complete list of results, visit tcoe.org/AcademicDecathlon.

Photos above:

~ The winning team from El Diamante High School includes: (front row, l-r) Fabian Chitay, Devin Prado, Yibo Liang, Carol Huang, and Katherine Jolly, and (back row, l-r) Isaiah Boriphanvichitr, Carter House, David Zegarra, and Steven Perez.

~ El Diamante's Devin Prado is pictured with his teammates participating in the Super Quiz competition. El Diamante High School won the Super Quiz, which focused on the national Academic Decathlon theme, "In Sickness and in Health: an Exploration of Illness and Wellness."

Census curriculum training offered March 4 for educators with history-social science classes or student leadership groups

Along with local, state, and national elections, the 2020 Census is one of the most important events of the year. Data collected on individuals living in the U.S. helps to determine the amount of federal funding distributed to states for everything from education and social programs to roads and infrastructure. "Census 2020 is an incredible teaching opportunity," said Tulare County Superintendent of School Tim Hire. "Teachers have the relatively rare opportunity to help their students understand the census process and how the data impacts the quality of our communities."

To support census-based learning opportunities in Tulare County schools, Justin Paredes, TCOE's history and integrated studies curriculum specialist, has been trained in state-developed curriculum for 5th, 8th, 11th, and 12th grades. The curriculum, entitled Count Me In!, can be used in both history-social science classrooms and with student leadership groups.

Educators are invited to attend free trainings of the Count Me In! curriculum at one of two available sessions on March 4 – 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. or 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. Teachers, after school leaders, curriculum coaches, and administrators who attend the training will receive access to all Count Me In! modules and materials, as well as a "how to" guide for student groups that want to create an awareness or "take action" census campaign.

To register for this free curriculum training, visit tulare.k12oms.org/147-182009.



Leadership Support Services introduces new student data analytics tool



The Data & Analytics Team from TCOE’s Leadership Support Services has created a new data analysis resource called 5x5 Explorer. This new predictive tool allows users to explore where specific goals and performance changes would place their school site or district on the California School Dashboard five-by-five grid. By simply selecting an indicator, a school site, and a student group, and then entering a change value to explore, users can get a sneak peek at what their Dashboard could look like next year. “In this season of LCAP planning and writing, we hope this tool will serve as a powerful resource for setting data-driven goals,” said Martin Frolli, administrator for Leadership Support Services. Educators are encouraged to explore the new tool by visiting bit.ly/tcoeviz.

Additionally, the Data & Analytics Team has launched its new data-centric webinar series entitled “Finding Opportunities in Data.” Scheduled for the first Monday of each month, these brief Zoom sessions introduce participants to an array of new tools and resources all aimed at making data more useful and accessible. This week, the webinar launched the series and focused on a discussion of the 5x5 Explorer. In future sessions, the webinar will present information on TCOE’s partnership with the CORE data collaborative, exploring achievement gaps and cohort data, communicating data information, equity for small students groups, and using data to improve decision-making and goal-setting practices. Educators interested in joining these sessions are encouraged to contact Javier Garcia at javier.garcia@tcoe.org, or Heather Elias at heather.elias@tcoe.org.

Coming Up!

- **through February 28**
Student Art Exhibition
TCOE Administration Building Lobby, 6200 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia
[More information.](#)
- **February 6**
Tulare County Mock Trial Semi-Final Round

5:00 - 8:00pm, Tulare County Courthouse, Visalia

[More information](#)

- **February 6**

University Preparatory High School Information Night

6:00 - 7:00pm, COS Visalia campus, Yokut Room 9, 915 S. Mooney Blvd.

[More information](#)

- **February 7**

Planetarium Public Shows

6:00pm: *Secret of the Cardboard Rocket*

7:00pm: *Saturn: Jewel of the Heavens*

TCOE Planetarium & Science Center, 11535 Avenue 264, Visalia

[More information](#)

- **February 7**

Poetry Out Loud

6:00 - 8:00pm, 210 Café, 210 W. Center Ave., Visalia

[More information.](#)

View more events at tcoe.org/CalendarofEvents.

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