

California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom promotes annual writing contest

Imagine this...

The deadline for the annual *Imagine this...* Story Writing Contest is approaching. The contest, sponsored by the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom, challenges students in grades 3-8 to write creatively about where their food comes from and the world around them. Stories, which are due November 1, may be fictional, factual, or historic.

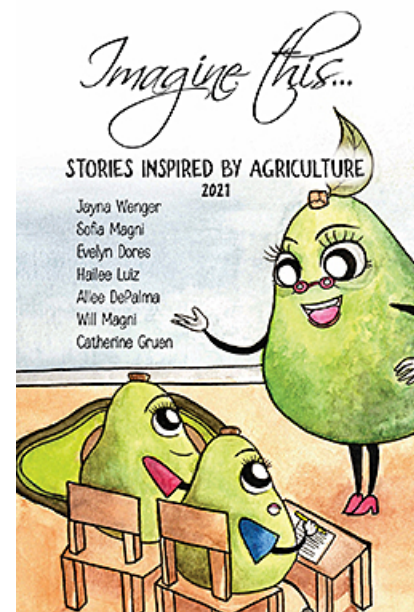
Student stories will be initially judged in individual grade categories in one of four regional competitions. Selected winners will advance to the state competition. At the state level, one winning student in each grade category will be named, and receive a medal, an e-reader, \$100 worth of resources for their teacher, and an expense-paid trip to Sacramento for them, their teacher, and two parents/guardians to attend an awards ceremony. The ceremony will take place at the state capitol during National Ag Week in March 2022.

Winners will have their stories illustrated by high school art students from throughout the state. Their stories and illustrations will then be published in a book which will be available for sale. The 2022 book will be the foundation's 23rd annual *Imagine this...* publication.

Teachers are encouraged to visit learnaboutag.org/programs/contest for helpful resources, teaching materials, and a copy of the entry form. *Imagine this...* fulfills the California State Standards for Language Arts (writing standards 2 and 3) for grades 3-8. The Learn About Ag website also contains lesson plans, and information on annual grants and scholarships teachers can use to incorporate agricultural education into their lesson plans.

Photo above:

~ *Winners in the 2022 Imagine this... Story Writing Contest will have their works published in a book illustrated by student artists from throughout the state.*

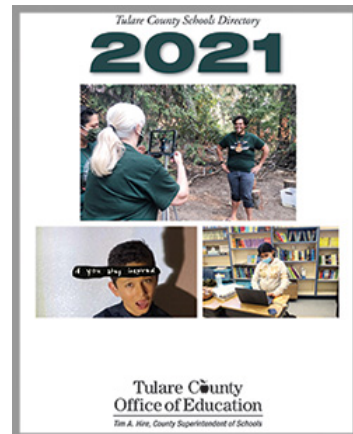


Updated Tulare County Schools Directory now online

An updated version of the 2021 Tulare County Schools Directory is now available online at tcoe.org/Directory. The pdf version of the directory is available to download or print. The directory has been redesigned in a letter-size format to fit in a binder if staff members choose to print one.

On the webpage, viewers can also find links to listings of TCOE staff, and information on Tulare County schools, districts, and charter schools.

The information in this pdf was accurate as of October 12, 2021. Staff or district personnel who notice errors in the information in the pdf or on any of the web pages are encouraged to notify Rob Herman at robh@tcoe.org. Online staff and district web pages will be updated continually. The pdf version of the directory will be updated each February and September.



Around the County

Woodville Union receives Clean Energy Champion Award

Last Friday, Woodville Union School District was recognized as a Clean Energy Champion by Southern California Edison (SCE) during SCE's virtual 11th Annual Hispanic Heritage Month celebration.

The Clean Energy Champion Award "is given to a company which has shown significant or remarkable savings through clean energy installations in partnership with SCE," said presenter Isabel Becerra, the president and chief executive officer of The Coalition of Orange County Community Health Centers.

"The school has implemented several energy-efficient projects at its campus with plans for future electrification," Becerra said. "Woodville has engaged with Southern California Edison to implement an electric bus fleet to serve their students. In addition, Woodville has further plans to place up to six additional vehicle charging stations at the school site for passenger vehicle charging. The air quality in the area is recognized as being some of the worst in the United States, and Woodville is doing their part to become part of the solution for their students and the community at large."

Woodville Union is a single-school district that serves 423 students in transitional kindergarten through eighth grade. Woodville Union superintendent Lou Saephan said the school serves a population that is 97% Hispanic and low-income. He added that the school is central to the community.

"The community itself here is a great community. So, I really want to make sure our school, which is the hub of the community, feels that sense of belonging," Saephan said during the virtual celebration.



Saephan detailed how the school supports the community, including providing food for those ages 0-18 during the summer, holding toy drives, and bringing agencies in to help families get tested for COVID-19 or receive the vaccine. The superintendent also noted that when the city's drinking well recently went down, they partnered with a local agency to get free bottled water to the district for the next two years.

Saephan said the district is always working to help the community and will seek out more grants to become even more energy-efficient.

"Woodville Union School District embraces the future. We understand the importance of leading and improving the outcomes of our students and the community into the 21st century. And that's why I'm really proud about the initiatives we're taking with green energy as well."

Around the County is a regular feature of TCOE's *News Gallery Week*. To be considered for this section, Tulare County districts are encouraged to share major student, school, and district achievements and high-resolution photography with Rob Herman, communications director, at robh@tcoe.org.

Learning Resources

- [Arts All Around Us](#)
 - [TCOE Learning at Home](#)
 - [TCOE's Educational Resource Services Library](#)
-

Editor: [Robert Herman](#), Communications Director

Contributors: Nayirah Dosu, Marlene Moreno, Jennifer Fisher, Tricia Stever-Blattler, and Lou Saephan.

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