

Third annual Equity Conference set for March 3



Registration is now open for TCOE's third annual Equity Conference entitled *Equity in a Changing World*. Scheduled for March 3, 2022, this interactive day-long virtual institute will engage participants in a deeper understanding of what equity means, what it looks like in practice, and how it is manifested or stifled on their campuses and in their communities. A wide variety of breakout sessions will include conversations around equity challenges impeding student success and opportunities to brainstorm practical solutions that empower all members of the educational community. Institutions boldly addressing their own equity challenges will share their strategies, obstacles, and outcomes.

To close the conference, participants will hear from Thomas Valles and David Diaz, two members of the 1987 CIF State Cross Country Championship team that inspired the film *McFarland USA*.

At the end of the conference, participants will leave with ideas and strategies to implement on their campuses.

Registration

Educators, community members, and parents are encouraged to visit tcoe.org/EquityConference for registration information. The fee for Tulare County residents is \$25 per person; attendees outside Tulare County may register for \$50 per person. In the next few months, information on breakout session presenters will be added to the site.

Thomas Valles and Johnny Samaniego were members of the 1987 California cross country championship team. Their state victory inspired the movie *McFarland, USA*, which is based on the true story of a small Central California high school coach that took an unlikely group of immigrant students and transformed them into a distance-running dynasty. Valles and Samaniego will discuss their historic and inspiring running careers, the challenges they faced growing up in a small Latino farming town in the 1980s, and what it was like to see their life portrayed on the big screen.

Around the County

Tulare County students selected for Honor Orchestra



Nine Tulare County students were selected for the California Orchestra Directors Association (CODA) December Honor Orchestra to perform on December 4.

The December CODA Honor Orchestra consists of two high school level honor orchestras, an Honors Symphony Orchestra, and an Honors String Orchestra, selected by audition. Due to safety protocols, CODA will host two in-person, simultaneous, one-day events. One event will take place in northern California, while the other will be in southern California. Students in central California had the option to choose where they will participate.

Participating in the orchestra in the south is Yajari Aguilar (violin) and Dakota Heggie (bass) from Harmony Magnet Academy, Alyssa Campos (cello) and Samuel Noricumbo (cello) from Redwood High School, and Hannah Wegley (viola) from University Preparatory High School. The southern event will take place at John Adams Middle School Performing Arts Center in Santa Monica.

Four Redwood students will participate in the northern event at Gunn High School in Palo Alto. Those students are Alexa Caballes (violin), Rose Candelaria (violin), Ben Lozano (cello), and Laine Roper (cello).

For more information about the event or CODA, visit codaorchestras.org/home.

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](#)
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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.