

## Theatre Company unveils plans for two summer performance opportunities



Last week, the Theatre Company announced its plans for two summer performance opportunities with an invitation for students to submit their audition videos May 1 through May 10.

*Little Women the Musical* will be the featured summer production. *Little Women* is based on the beloved American coming-of-age novel by American novelist Louisa May Alcott. The story follows the lives of the four March sisters – Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy – and details their passage from childhood to womanhood.

Theatre Company Director Bethany Rader reports that the production features a small cast, which will allow the directors and students to rehearse while following COVID-19 protocols. Rehearsals will begin June 7 and culminate with filming of the production in early July. A video of *Little Women the Musical* will be released to audiences in late July.

Students may also audition for the summer musical pre-show, *From Page to Stage*. This production, which celebrates literature in musical theatre, will allow students the opportunity to perform solo or in small groups. The performances will be recorded, then streamed as a pre-show just prior to the *Little Women* production.

For audition information, visit [tcoe.org/TheatreCo](https://tcoe.org/TheatreCo) or call the Theatre Company at (559) 651-1482.

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## Virtual Support Staff Conference just two weeks away



The annual Tulare County Support Staff Conference is returning this year as a virtual event on May 5. Marlene Moreno, administrative assistant for the county superintendent, shares that the event will feature a keynote presentation by Tom Murray, plus two breakout sessions with nine topics each. The breakout sessions include topics on communication, mental health, family life, and personal organization.



Keynote presenter Tom Murray serves as the Director of Innovation for Future Ready Schools in Washington, D.C. He has testified before the United States Congress and has worked alongside that body, the US Senate, the White House, the US Department of Education and state departments of education, corporations, and school districts throughout the country to implement student-centered learning. A best-selling author, Mr. Murray serves as a regular conference keynote. He was named the 2018 National/Global EdTech Leader of the Year by *EdTech Digest*, the 2017 Education Thought Leader of the Year by Texas Computer Education Association, and one of 20 to Watch by National School Boards Association in 2016. His best-selling book, *Learning Transformed: 8 Keys to Designing Tomorrow's Schools, Today*, co-authored with Eric Sheninger, was released in June 2017. His most recent book, *Personal & Authentic: Designing Learning Experiences that Impact a Lifetime*, was released in October 2019.

For registration information, including an agenda, registration fees, and a list of breakout sessions, visit [tcoe.org/support](https://tcoe.org/support). Registration closes April 30.

*Photo above:*

*~ Award-winning author and education reformer Thomas Murray will be the keynote speaker at the virtual Tulare County Support Staff Conference May 5.*

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## Circle J-Norris Ranch offers outdoor events April 24 and May 8



Circle J-Norris Ranch announced two events designed to connect the community to the beauty of the field study site. On April 24, Circle J-Norris Ranch will host two outdoor yoga sessions led by local instructor Elizabeth Dieterle. Families and students are invited to attend and should bring a mask, comfortable walking shoes, water, and a yoga mat and towel. Sessions will be held at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Registration is required as space is limited. Visit <https://bit.ly/cirlejyoga> for more information.

On May 8, the program invites the public to attend a poetry reading event from 9:00 until 11:00 a.m. The works of poets past and present will be shared and coffee will be provided courtesy of Wild Oak Coffee House in Springville. The public is encouraged to register for the event at <https://bit.ly/cirlejpoetry>. Space is limited and COVID-19 protocols will be followed. Visitors are urged to bring a mask, comfortable walking shoes, and water.

Circle J-Norris Ranch is the field study site of the SCICON School of Science and Conservation, and home to the UC Merced/SCICON Field Station. The program is located at 41893 Yokohl Valley Drive in Springville. For more information, visit [tcoe.org/CircleJ](http://tcoe.org/CircleJ) or call (559) 539-2263.

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## Local school boards association awards annual scholarships to Tulare County students



For over 15 years, the Tulare County Office of Education has assisted the Tulare County School Boards Association (TCSBA) with its annual scholarship program. Each year, the association offers scholarships to seniors from every Tulare County high school, including comprehensive, charter, and continuation settings. Marlene Moreno and Jennifer Fisher from County Superintendent of Schools Tim Hire's office coordinate the distribution of information to Tulare County high schools and the screening process with TCSBA board members. This year, the association was pleased to provide 22 scholarships of \$300 to the following students.

**Izaiah Benavides**, Woodlake Union High School  
**Michaela Betbeder**, La Sierra Military Academy  
**Isabella Caso**, Mission Oak High School  
**Jada Delgadillo**, Dinuba High School  
**Amanda Dominguez**, Redwood High School  
**Stephanie Figueroa-Soto**, Orosi High School  
**Litzy Gomez**, Lindsay High School  
**Natalia Greco**, Countryside High School  
**Giana Hollingsworth**, Mt. Whitney High School  
**Whitney Iskenderian**, Visalia Technical Early College High School  
**Jenna Keller**, Monache High School  
**Krissta Kunze**, Butterfield Charter School  
**Victor Martinez-Ambriz**, Tulare Union High School  
**Kaylee Nelsen**, Exeter Union High School  
**Joyce Park**, El Diamante High School  
**Ariana Robles**, Harmony Magnet Academy  
**Ariel Rodriguez**, Golden West High School  
**Citlali Romero**, Strathmore High School  
**Chloe Ross**, Granite Hills High School  
**Izaiah Ruiz**, Tulare Western High School  
**Candelaria Sanchez**, Summit Charter Collegiate Academy  
**Carson Wallace**, Porterville High School

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## Directory correction

A correction has been made to the pdf version of the 2021 Tulare County Schools Directory located at [tcoe.org/Directory](http://tcoe.org/Directory). TCOE staff and district personnel who have printed a copy should print and replace page 54.

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## Distance 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](http://tcoe.org/GetTheGallery), or contact Jennifer Fisher at [jenniferf@tcoe.org](mailto:jenniferf@tcoe.org) or (559) 733-6172.