

Tulare County
Office of Education

Tim A. Hire, County Superintendent of Schools

news
galleryweek

March 30, 2022

Poetry & Prose returns for its 37th year



TCOE's 37th annual Poetry & Prose event kicked off Tuesday with over 1,100 students from 84 Tulare County schools participating in the six-day oral interpretation program. The event is scheduled for March 29 - 31 and April 5 - 7 at the TCOE administration building. The public is welcome to attend.

Poetry & Prose was created to bolster students' confidence, creativity, performance, and language skills. Students, grades K-8, prepare poems or dramatic readings and performed either individually or in small groups. The poems can be from poets, such as popular children's writers Shel Silverstein or Jack Prelutsky, or written by the students themselves. This year, some students are reciting their selections in Spanish.

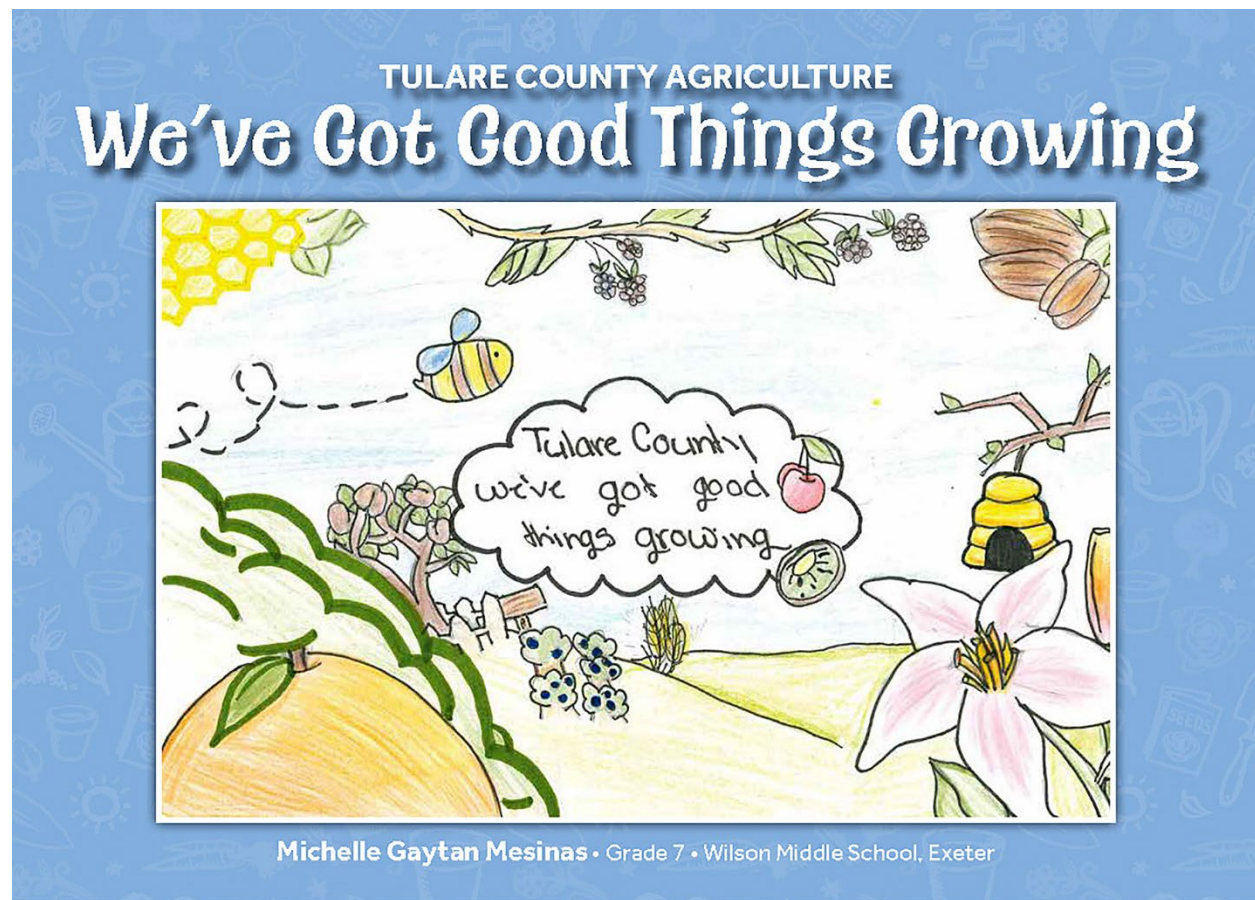
Judges provide positive and instructional critiques as they evaluate each performance. There are 10 areas which students are judged on, which include posture and presence, meaningful gestures, eye contact, sincerity and poise, and more. The judges' sheets are later given to teachers so they can be reviewed with their students.

Afterwards, a select number of students are chosen to perform their poems in front of the entire crowd before personalized achievement certificates honoring the students' performances are handed out.

Photo above:

~ Angel Silva, a student from Columbine School, performed a humorous, self-authored poem entitled Chase.

Farm Bureau Student Art Calendar celebrates Tulare County agriculture, good nutrition



TULARE COUNTY FARM BUREAU 2022-2023 STUDENT ART CALENDAR

Tuesday, Tricia Stever Blattler, executive director for the Tulare County Farm Bureau, presented the annual Student Art Calendar to the Tulare County Board of Supervisors. Blattler reported to the board that this year the Farm Bureau received over 1,300

artworks for its annual competition – a competition which began as a bumper sticker contest in 1997 before expanding to a calendar.

“The calendar is a great tool for teachers as it incorporates information about our county and its importance to the nation, as well as nutrition education and some of the science behind agriculture,” said Tim Hire, Tulare County Superintendent of Schools.



The annual calendar presentation coincides with National Agriculture Month (March) and serves as a colorful reminder of the prominence of Tulare County agriculture in California, the nation, and the world.

This year's calendar carries the theme, *Tulare County Agriculture: We've Got Good Things Growing*. Michelle Gaytan Mesinas, a seventh-grader at Wilson Middle School in Exeter, created the artwork featured on the cover of the April 2022 to March 2023 calendar.

Alex Rogers and Lauren Quinones from the Nutrition Education Obesity Prevention (NEOP) program compiled the monthly agriculture and nutrition facts for various Tulare County crops and products. Additional student artwork is also featured each month.

The calendar will be distributed to Tulare County teachers beginning this week.

Additional featured artwork includes:

Back Cover

Emiliano Lupercio, Orsi High School (Grade 12)

Monthly Artwork

Madison Daniska, Three Rivers Union School (Grade 2)
Mateo Martinez, Castle Rock Elementary School (Grade 3)
Bethany Wells, Redwood High School, Visalia (Grade 12)
Catricia Alvarez, Dinuba High School (Grade 10)
Kassandra Gonzalez, Earlimart Middle School (Grade 7)
Mercedes Cuevas, Orosi High School (Grade 10)
Yasmin Garcia Ibarra, Orosi High School (Grade 12)
Ruby Bobadilla, Tipton School (Grade 5)
Ciria Valdovinos, Earlimart Middle School (Grade 8)
Luke Mathis, Porterville Military Academy (Grade 7)
Bryce Moore, St. Paul's School, Visalia (Grade 5)
Jose Jimenez, Pixley Elementary School (Grade 4)

Photos above:

~ The Tulare County Farm Bureau's Student Art Calendar was presented Tuesday to the Tulare County Board of Supervisors. Over 1,300 students submitted artwork for the contest. Artwork by Michelle Gaytan Mesinas, a seventh-grader from Wilson Middle School in Exeter, was selected to appear on the cover.

~ (l-r) Tulare County Supervisors Amy Shuklian, Larry Micari, and Pete Vander Poel, Farm Bureau Executive Director Tricia Stever Blattler, Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Tim Hire, and Supervisors Dennis Townsend and Eddie Valero pose with copies of the 2022-23 Student Art Calendar.

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To receive the News Gallery Week, sign up [here](#), or contact Jennifer Fisher at jenniferf@tcoe.org or (559) 733-6172.