

The Nugget



News from the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools office
January 2014 **Holly Hermansen, Superintendent**

***Celebrate National Youth Art Month.
Participate in Nevada County's...***

Young At Art exhibition

**See article below to learn how your school can
receive art supplies with simple classroom participation.**

News & Notes

NCSOS Programs & Services

By Superintendent Holly Hermansen
*Nevada County Superintendent of Schools
Office*



The Nevada County Superintendent of Schools office offers a wide variety of programs and services to support our local schools. In fact, we have over 125 employees providing educational services at six different locations! Following is a description of each site and the specific support and services operating at each of them.

Nevada County Superintendent of Schools:

112 Nevada City Highway, Nevada City
Our main office includes all Business Services including Payroll, Administrative Services, Student Programs, Curriculum and Instruction, Health Services, Personnel and Human Resources, Credentialing support, Safe Schools / Healthy Students, Homeless Education Services,

Technology, Art Docent Program, Peer Court and Student Attendance support. A wide variety of programs and services to support all local districts and charter schools are provided through this office.

NCSOS Annex:

117 New Mohawk, Nevada City

The annex facility is the home of our Foster Youth, Indian Education, and Independent Living Programs as well as our Charter Business Services office. We also organize all our student academic tournaments through this office.

Terence K. McAteer Family Resource Center:

400 Hoover Lane, Nevada City

This site houses the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools Special Education Services which includes a program for special needs infants, a preschool class for students with disabilities, a Head Start preschool, and a variety of itinerant support staff including occupational therapists, teachers for the visually impaired, adaptive P.E. teachers, speech therapists

and a psychologist. In addition, this facility houses the Nevada County SELPA, First 5 Nevada County, the Bowman-Solinski Warm Water Pool, and California Children's Services which provides occupational and physical therapy services.

Earle Jamieson Educational Options:

12338 McCourtney Road, Grass Valley

Earle Jamieson provides an educational placement for students grades 7-12 who have been expelled from their school, are on probation, or have been referred by the Student Attendance Review Board (SARB).

Sugarloaf Mountain:

15434 Highway 49, Nevada City

This school is located in the Nevada County juvenile hall and serves students who are incarcerated.

Sierra College Child Development Program:

250 Sierra College Drive, Grass Valley

This program serves preschool students and toddlers from 18 months to 5 years old. It also functions as a lab and a practicum site for Sierra College students studying child development.

Our amazing staff work very hard to provide the highest quality support and services to our local schools. With the most recent changes at the State level including the full implementation of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and the requirements of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), the county office has a much larger role to play in training, support, and accountability. New funds generated for the county office by the LCFF are being used to directly support students and schools in the implementation of the common core, the development of Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAP) and school safety. No new funds are intended for purchase or lease of new facilities.

In the last couple of years we have realized that having our operations spread out across so many locations is probably not the most efficient way to operate. For that reason staff at the county office have considered options for consolidating some of our facilities. The most reasonable plan seems to be combining the NCSOS Annex and the NCSOS main building on Nevada City Highway. However, any new facility housing these two offices would have to meet all three criteria below:

1. Be operated at a cost savings or at the very least cost neutral. No new funds would be spent.
2. Provide adequate meeting room space for professional development.
3. Provide a safe and efficient employee environment including appropriate parking.

Whether or not a facility exists that meets all of these criteria is unknown. However, it is an important consideration for the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools office in providing the most efficient and effective services to our local schools.

Young at Art exhibition

By Judy Nielsen

NCSOS Program Coordinator

This year the County of Nevada and the NCSOS office are providing funds as an incentive for classroom participation in Young at Art. For each classroom that participates, a stipend will be awarded to your school district, to be used for the purchase of art supplies in the classroom.

Young at Art, the nation-wide program that celebrates Youth Art Month, takes place during the month of March. This exhibition is a public testimony to the value of the arts in education. One of the best ways to promote arts education is to take every opportunity to let people know of its benefits. Young at Art is one of these opportunities.

Arts education has proven to help level the 'learning field' across socio-economic boundaries, strengthen problem-solving skills, articulate a vision, learn to solve problems, make decisions, build self-confidence and more.

Artwork will be displayed at the Eric Rood Administration Center March 3 thru May 23, 2014. All K-12 teachers, art instructors, art docents and others are invited to install student artwork February 26-28, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. All second floor hallways and wall panels in the second floor landing are available on a first-come basis. Detailed guidelines will be distributed electronically to school sites, teachers, and head art docents. Guidelines can also be downloaded at <http://nevco.org/young-at-art/>. For more info, contact Program Coordinator Judy Nielsen at 478-6400 x. 208 or email judy@nevco.k12.ca.us.

Common Core Math Curriculum:

Book Adoption Review Period thru Feb. 7, 2014

By Associate Superintendent, Educational Services

Shar Johns

Nevada County Superintendent of Schools Office

NCSOS is currently hosting a 2-week book fair for consideration of math adoption materials. Books for review from several publishers are on display at NCSOS in the Houser Room thru February 7, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday. Math programs available for review are from Houghton Mifflin, CPM, TPS Publishing, McGraw Hill, and Pearson.

Teachers and administrators are encouraged to review books as a team, but drop-ins are welcome. Teams should schedule a time block with Judy Nielsen at judy@nevco.k12.ca.us. For more detailed information, including information about the 'Math Toolkit', contact Shar Johns at sjohns@nevco.k12.ca.us.

News & Notes... continues on page 3

Nevada County Reads & Writes! 2014 Book Selection & Related Programs

By Judy Nielsen

Committee Member

Nevada County Reads and Writes! is a county-wide program that is sponsored by the Nevada County Libraries and the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools. The community is encouraged to read the featured book and then participate in subject related school and community events. Now would be the time to read the 2014 book selection, *The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green, as the four related events take place in February and March. NCSOS has provided copies of the book to high school campuses and the public libraries have purchased 16 check-out copies and 95 honor copies. Honor copies do not need to be checked out; rather they sit on an open shelf where you are on your honor to borrow any book on that shelf and then return it in a timely manner.

About the 2014 author, quoting NPR, "Green writes books for young adults, but his voice is so compulsively readable that it defies categorization. You will be thankful for the little infinity you spend inside this book." With his brother, Hank, John is one half of the Vlog-brothers (youtube.com/vlogbrothers), one of the most popular online video projects in the world. A synopsis of the book, from the book jacket is that "Despite the tumor-shrinking medical miracle that has bought her a few years, Hazel has never been anything but terminal, her final chapter inscribed upon diagnosis. But when a gorgeous plot twist named Augustus Waters suddenly appears at Cancer Kid Support Group, Hazel's story is about to be completely rewritten." *The Fault in our Stars* is one of those books that once you pick it up, you don't put it down.

The four 2014 book-related events are a kick-off event, a panel presentation, a craft-in-for-cancer, and the 4th annual writing competition; which this year has expanded to be a competition for high school students and an additional competition for public participation.

Kick-off event: Friday, February 21, 5 p.m.-7 p.m. at the Madelyn Helling Library. Event will include local high school students performing a reader's theater of excerpts from the book.

Panel presentation - 'Star-Crossed Lives/Teens and Cancer': Tuesday, March 4, 7-9 p.m. at the Center for the Arts. This event will feature vignettes inspired by *A Fault in our Stars*, presented by local actress Sandra Rockman, Dr. Sarah Woerner, Dr. Jeff Kane, and student actors. The audience will be invited to discuss vignettes and their significance.

Craft-in-for-Cancer: Make items such as hats or lap quilts for Nevada County people in need, including people with cancer. Visit any Nevada County library branch in March to pick up free patterns, ideas, and packets of materials and supplies. Completed items can be dropped off at any library branch or the NCSOS by the end of March. On Friday, March 21, at the Madelyn Helling Library from 11-4, local knitters, fiber artists, and 'crafters' will be available to give instruction and offer guidance.

4th Annual Writing Competition: This year there are two contests, one for high-school students and one for the public-at-large. Cash awards are given to 1st, 2nd & 3rd prize winners for both the high school and general public competitions. The award ceremony for both takes place Wednesday, March 26, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m., at the Center for the Arts.

All events are free. Stay informed by going to www.nevadacountyreads.com. For more info contact Laura Pappani, Grass Valley Branch Librarian at (530) 470-2692.

Trainings • Field Trips • Opportunities for All

Trainings

#4 of Six Early Childhood Education Workshops: Numeracy

On Wednesday, February 12, 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. join presenters Morgan Best, Sierra College Child Development Center Director and Lindsay Dunckel, First 5 Nevada County E.D. for an exploration of the ways in which we can support young

children in developing math concepts. Just as we work on children's literacy in their early years before they read, we can work on their numeracy long before they "do math."

A light dinner will be provided. Individuals attending at least four of the six workshops will receive a \$60 stipend. To register go to www.first5nevco.org or call Sandi at 265-0611 x223. Video conferencing is available from Truckee but participants

must register a minimum of one-week prior to the workshop.

Field Trips

13th Annual NU Student Choreography Showcase

This informal, innovative lecture & demonstration of student works, created

Trainings, Field Trips, Opportunities for All... continues on page 4

by advanced dancers in the dept., will be held on Thurs., Fri. & Sat., Feb. 27-28 & March 1 at 7:00 p.m., Nevada Union High School, Don Baggett Theater. Tickets can be purchased on-line at www.nevadauniondance.com, in the theatre lobby Feb. 22-23 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. or at the door on show nights. For more info. contact the NU dance dept. at 273-4431 x.2103.

prizes for winners, a free raffle for all who participate, and all sign-ups receive a free backpack. \$5 includes tournament entry fee, snacks throughout the day, and a catered lunch. For more info contact Dan Zeisler at 346-2153 ext. 202 or danz@chicagoparkschool.org.

**PARTNERS
Family Resource
Centers:
Call for Art**



The school-based PARTNERS Family Resource Centers offer Nevada County students and their families a variety of services, including parenting classes, computer labs, lending libraries, clothes closets, food pantries, assistance in navigating the new healthcare programs, Behavioral Health therapists and much more.

In April PARTNERS Family Resource Centers will have their second annual benefit art auction, Art for Kids Sake, in support of Nevada County's three family resource centers. Any child in our community can donate a piece of art to be auctioned off to raise funds for these programs that serve all of Nevada County families in need. Deadline to submit all types of artwork is March 21, 2014 at the NCSOS office. For more info contact Kristin McGrew at kmcgrew@nevco.k12.ca.us or 478-6400 x264. For guidelines and a 'Release of Artwork' form go to www.partnersfamilyresourcecenters.org

CA State Summer School for the Arts (CSSSA): Seeks Teen Artists, Writers, & Performers

CSSSA provides the highest quality professional artistic training to the most deserving teenagers regardless of their economic situations. You may have a student that would thrive in this environment. Give a moment of thought and pass on the information for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Deadline to apply is Feb. 28. To learn more about CSSSA or obtain application forms & instructions visit www.csssa.ca.gov or call Sacramento headquarters at (916) 229-5160.

TECH TREK!: Science & Math Camp for Girls

Tech Trek STEM Camp, for 7th grade girls, is a program of the AAUW. Nominations for 7th grade students who you feel would be good Tech Trek candidates are due Feb. 5. Submit to Faith Yamamoto at NCSOS. For more info. Contact Faith Yamamoto at 478-6400 x201 or fyamamoto@nevco.k12.ca.us.

CPR & First Aid Training

See the Quick Reference Calendar below for dates & times thru April 2014, including an EMSA class on February 1. CPR & First Aid Training is \$30 and the EMSA class is \$65. The EMSA class is especially designed to meet the requirement for child care providers and preschool employees. Reservations are first come, first serve. Fees must be prepaid to reserve a spot in the class. For further information call Faith 478-6400 x201 or register on-line at www.nevco.org/register.

**Finding Funding:
Tip of the Month**

- Soroptimist International of the Sierra Foothills has put out their RFP to distribute \$7,000 in local funding to non-profit 501(c)(3) agencies or organizations which improve the lives of women and children. Deadline to submit a 1-2 page proposal is due by Feb 25. Approved grants will be announced March 7, 2014. For guidelines or more info contact Janie Ackerman at janiea@comcast.net or Lark Zachary at larkzachary@live.com.
- Contact Judy Nielsen at judy@nevco.k12.ca.us to request free 'Be a Hero for Arts Education' posters and other arts related materials.
- Participate in Young at Art and receive money for art supplies for your school/classroom. See article in the News & Notes section of the NUGGET.

Received funding or services from one of our Finding Funding tips? We'd love to hear about it! Contact Nugget Editor Judy Nielsen.

Quick Reference Calendar... Follows on page 5



Music in the Mountains

Music in the Mountains Young Composers Project has their biggest class ever with 27 Nevada County students, ages 10-18. Each has composed a new work for voice and one instrument to be premiered Saturday, February 1, 2-4 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church. Go to www.musicinthemountains.org for details or contact Education Director Mark Vance at 265.6173 x202.

Music Live is the all school assembly program that brings a professional ensemble to your school. This year MIM completes a four year cycle by bringing the last family of instruments in the orchestra, woodwinds. Concerts last 45 minutes plus q/a as time allows. Contact Judy Nielsen at judy@nevco.k12.ca.us to schedule an assembly on a Wednesday in February, March, or April.

Opportunities for All

21st Annual Sierra Youth Cribbage Tournament Returns to Chicago Park School March 1

All youth cribbage players 18 years of age and under are invited to attend the largest and longest running youth cribbage tournament in the U.S.! Tournament entrants must understand the basic concepts of cribbage. The tournament takes place Saturday, March 1, 8:30 a.m. sharp, in the Chicago Park School gym. Fabulous

Quick Reference Calendar...

Calendar events have been highlighted in previous editions of *The Nugget* and are listed in chronological order. Back issues of *The Nugget*, with additional information, can be found at www.nevco.org.



First 5 Professional Advancement for Kids Scholarships

January 1, 2014

additional \$2,500 available until all is awarded



Poetry Out Loud

March 23-24

State finals poetry recitation run-offs in Sacramento Senate Chambers and the State Capitol rotunda!



Upcoming CPR Class Dates

EMSA CPR & FIRST AID	Sat. 2/1	FULL	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
CPR & FIRST AID	Thurs. 2/13		3 p.m. – 7 p.m.
CPR & FIRST AID	Sat. 2/22		9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
CPR & FIRST AID	Sat. 3/22		9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
CPR & FIRST AID	Thurs. 3/27		3 p.m. – 7 p.m.
CPR & FIRST AID	Thurs. 4/17		3 p.m. – 7 p.m.
CPR & FIRST AID	Sat. 4/26		9 a.m. – 5 p.m.



Early Childhood Education (ECE) Workshop Series

February 12

Numeracy

March 12

Development in the Context of Relationship

April 9

Work-Life balance & mentors



Tournament Schedule for School Year 2013-14

EVENT	GRADE	DATE	LOCATION
Speech Prelims	4 th – 8 th	3/6	Calvary Bible Church
Speech Finals	4 th – 8 th	3/18	Nevada Theatre



First Amendment Cartoon Contest for students

March 14

Deadline to enter at www.courtsed.org

Quick Reference Calendar... continues on page 6

