Writing Tournament 2018
Nela Dwyer
Writing Tournament Coordinator

Forty (40) 7th-8th grade students from ten local public, private, and charter schools competed in the Nevada County Schools Writing Tournament. The Nevada County Superintendent of Schools Office coordinated the annual event, which was on January 9, 2018 and held in the Stone Hall at the Miners Foundry. Many thanks to our tournament sponsors: The Book Seller, Williams Stationery, and The Miners Foundry.

Students were judged on three styles of writing:

♦ **Expository Writing**: Guest speaker, Stanton Miller, retired school administrator, spoke for 30 minutes about his evolution as an artist and his passion for the art of airbrush painting. Following his speech, the students were given time to write a paper about the presentation.

♦ **Letter Writing**: Students were asked to write a letter to the editor of the Union: Should there be a teen section in the newspaper? Why or why not?

♦ **Creative Writing**: The students wrote compositions inspired by illustrations from “The Mysteries of Harris Burdick.”

Sweepstakes for highest collective score from 3 assignments:

7th - Travis Galpin of Grass Valley Charter School
8th - Megan Schreck of Seven Hills Middle School

7th Grade winners by category:

**Expository Writing:**
1st: Travis Galpin – Grass Valley Charter School
2nd: Megan Hundemer – Mt. St. Mary’s Academy
3rd: Avary George – Lyman Gilmore Middle School
4th – tie: Clara Mairs – Yuba River Charter School
  Lily Hallenbeck – Seven Hills Middle School
5th: Cierra Garcia – Union Hill Middle School

**Letter Writing:**
1st: Travis Galpin – Grass Valley Charter School
2nd: Lily Hallenbeck – Seven Hills Middle School
3rd: Sophia Karas – Union Hill Middle School
4th: Cierra Garcia – Union Hill Middle School
5th: Clara Mairs – Yuba River Charter School

**Creative Writing:**
1st: Ella Macias – Yuba River Charter School
2nd: Francesca Rainey – Nevada City School of the Arts
3rd: Travis Galpin – Grass Valley Charter School
4th: Chiara Maher – Nevada City School of the Arts
5th: James Haworth – Magnolia Intermediate School

8th Grade winners by category:

**Expository Writing:**
1st: Megan Schreck – Seven Hills Middle School
2nd: Noah Prescott – Nevada City School of the Arts
3rd: Sabine Noyes – Grass Valley Charter School
4th: Faith Stubbs – Lyman Gilmore Middle School
5th: Bekah Callahan – Lyman Gilmore Middle School

**Letter Writing:**
1st: Noah Prescott – Nevada City School of the Arts
2nd: Megan Schreck – Seven Hills Middle School
3rd: Kendall Vanderwouw – Nevada City School of the Arts
4th: Rowan Muir – Grass Valley Charter School
5th: Allyson Davis – Chicago Park School

**Creative Writing:**
1st: Megan Schreck – Seven Hills Middle School
2nd: Bailey Ham – Magnolia Intermediate School
3rd: Etta Stewart – Yuba River Charter School
4th: Allyson Davis – Chicago Park School
5th: Noah Prescott – Nevada City School of the Arts

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Tech Trek STEM Camp for 7th Grade Girls
Scott W. Lay
Nevada County Superintendent of Schools

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) sponsors Tech Trek, an exciting, week-long residential science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) camp created specifically for 7th grade girls who show an interest in these fields. The camp is held during the summer prior to their 8th grade year. It offers a unique opportunity for our girls to experience life on the UC Davis campus while participating in hands-on activities, mini-labs, on-campus field trips, and more.

AAUW Nevada County Branch has been sending western Nevada County girls to Tech Trek since 1998. With the generous support of local businesses and individuals, they will send seven girls to Tech Trek at UC Davis, July 22-28, 2018. That’s where site administrators and 7th grade science, math, and technology teachers come in. Teachers have the chance to nominate 7th grade female students who they feel would be good Tech Trek candidates.

In collaboration with the AAUW, the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools office distributes Tech Trek recommendation and application materials in early January. Teacher recommendations are a critical part of the selection process. Now is the time to identify girls in your classes you might consider nominating. All nominations are due to the NCSOS office, to the attention of Faith Yamamoto, no later than Thursday, February 8. You may need to collaborate with other teachers at your school, as there is a limit of four nominees per school. Nominees should show a genuine interest in science, math and/or technology and benefit from the Tech Trek experience. You also may want to call upon previous “Tech Trekkers” to share with potential candidates. Interested nominees will need to complete the camp application, including an essay on the prompt topic. Each year, in May, the AAUW and NCSOS hosts a recognition event for the seven selected students. The energy behind this program is exhilarating and the experience greatly rewarding. The girls know they are in for a turning point in their lives, something that will be memorable for the rest of their lives.

Celebrating Youth Art Month with Young at Art
Judy Nielsen
Nevada County Arts Lead/Program Coordinator
Young at Art exhibition

This year, in conjunction with STEAM Expo 2018, the Nevada County Arts Council will select a limited number of apropos artworks for exhibition at STEAM Expo 2018. These pieces will be returned to their rightful places on the wall at the Rood Center, following the Expo on April 7.

Young at Art, celebrating Youth Art Month, takes place during the month of March. This exhibition is a public testimony to the value of the arts in education. The State Department of Education, California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCCESA), and the California Arts Council highly support arts in education. In the recent past, language has been crafted as ‘We believe that…’ or ‘It is thought…’, but as neuroscience has taken a stronghold in recent years, we can now state with certainty that, all facets of the arts absolutely enhance how we process, how we learn, how we engage, how we connect the dots in every discipline. It is with this conviction that Nevada County embraces STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) versus STEM in the common vernacular. We also recognize that the arts stand alone, feeding the creative thinker in all of us, enhancing and reflecting history, culture, values, and emotion. For example, music is commonly referred to as the ‘universal language’, with its innate ability to touch and connect us all. The arts are alive in Nevada County and could not have a better place to root than with our children in Nevada County schools.

For exhibition timeline information see Opportunities for All below.

Trainings • Field Trips • Opportunities for All

Trainings
Technology Lending Library Offers Free Arduino Teacher Training
Teachers and afterschool providers who want to learn how to teach with Arduinos are welcome to join John Powers in this free two-hour workshop on February 27 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. at Madelyn Helling Library. Arduino is an open-source electronics platform based on easy-to-use hardware and software. Arduino boards are able to read inputs - light on a sensor, a finger on a button, or a Twitter message - and turn it into an output - activating a motor, turning on an LED, publishing something online. As a teacher or after-school provider, you are able to check out Arduinos as part of Nevada County Libraries Technology Lending Library with...
your library card! To register, visit this link. For additional information regarding this training or the Technology Lending Library contact Lisa Nowlain at lisa.nowlain@co.nevada.ca.us or 265-1541.

Opportunities for All
California State Summer School for the Arts
The 32nd session of CSSSA seeks the most talented high school-aged artists, writers and performers, for a 4-week long submersion into the arts: animation, film/video, dance, music, theater, visual arts, and creative writing! This is one of the country’s premier summer arts programs. Students work with professional artists, writers and performers of national stature. CSSSA takes place July 7 – August 3 at CalArts campus in Valencia, CA. Financial aid is available. More than 30% of the 520 selected attendees receive financial aid. Close to full funding can be obtained. On-line application deadline: February 28, 2018, 6:00 p.m. PST. To learn more about CSSSA or to apply on-line, visit www.csssa.ca.gov or contact the Sacramento headquarters at comments@csssa.org or 916.229.5160.

Sudoku
The second annual Nevada County Children’s Team Sudoku Tournament will be held on Thursday, April 19 at Nevada Union High School, from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Children 2nd-6th grades are invited to compete on teams, with 3 or 4 children on each team. 20 teams from 10 schools, comprised of 71 students participated in the first annual tournament. Sudoku is an invaluable tool for developing good thinking habits, particularly in children whose cognitive skills are being formed. For more info or to sign-up your team contact Jerry Martin at jerrymartin1942@gmail.com.

Child & Babysitting Safety Certification
Child & Babysitting Safety Certification class takes place on Saturday, March 10 from 9:00a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Earle Jamieson Educational Options, 112 Nevada City Hwy. Course covers babysitting as a business, safety & injury prevention, leadership, play time, basic caregiver skills, and first aid. Register on-line at http://nevco.org/super-sitter-. $35 registration includes workbook and certification card. Make check payable to NCSOS and PRIOR to class drop off at NCSOS at 380 Crown Point Circle. For more info contact Sharyn Turner MA, RN at sturner@nevco.org or 478.6400 x2045.

Looking for a Science Fair Project?
If you have a student or class who would love to learn more about weather, why not turn them onto NOAA/NASA SciJinks? Go to https://scijinks.gov/weather-science-fair/ It’s all about weather with tons of resources for students and educators alike.

Young at Art Exhibition
Artwork will be displayed at the Eric Rood Administration Center March 5 thru May 22, 2018. All K-12 teachers, art instructors, art docents and others are invited to install student artwork February 28-March 2, 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 will also be available at http://nevco.org/young-at-art/. Contact Program Coordinator Judy Nielsen at 478-6400 x. 2008 or email jnielsen@nevco.org.

CPR & First Aid Training
CPR/First Aid/AED courses are taken on-line, followed by a Skills Demo Check ‘class’, coordinated by the NCSOS office. Certification is received once you have met the demonstration requirement. The initial on-line training course is estimated to take up to 3 hours; renewing, takes less time. $45 class fee must be paid prior to on-line course access. Make payment at 380 Crown Point Circle (NCSOS). Skills Demo Check takes place at 112 Nevada City Hwy. (Earle Jamieson School). See the Quick Reference Calendar below for Demo Check classes scheduled thru January. www.nevco.org/register to register or contact Faith Yamamoto at fyamamoto@nevco.org.

Music in the Mountains
These MIM educational programs are free to Nevada County schools:
• Peers Performing for PEERS
• Music Live
• Take 5 for Music – All should be on year ONE of the five-year cycle.
Other MIM educational programs:
• Carnegie Link-Up
• Young Composers Project
• MIMYO (Youth Orchestra)

For further information contact Education Director Mark Vance at mark@musicinthemountains.org or 265-6173.

Youth Bicycling Groups Fundraiser combines with Jim Rogers Memorial Ride
The (9th Annual) Jim Rogers Memorial Ride promotes distracted driving awareness. This year the ride will be followed by a benefit lunch, to raise much needed support for safe youth bicycling.

Opportunities for All continues on page 4
groups in Nevada County. Lunch is provided by SPD Markets. Both events take place at Tour of Nevada City Bicycle Shop on Sunday, Feb. 11. Ride takes place at 11:00 a.m. Lunch takes place at 12:30 p.m. Suggested $5 donation to benefit youth cycling. For more info contact Karen Wallack-Eisen at 588.4844 or 265.3809 or knwe@sbcglobal.net.

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/news-events.

**Triple P: Power of Positive Parenting Class**
January 18 thru March 8  6 - 8 p.m.  Ready Springs School

**World Read Aloud Day**
February 1

**Mother-Daughter Circle Group**
February 5, 12, 19 & 26  5:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.  Ready Springs School Library

**Tournament Schedule for School Year 2017-18**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>REGISTRATION DUE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Speech Prelims</td>
<td>4th – 8th</td>
<td>3/8</td>
<td>9 - 12:30, 1 - 4:30</td>
<td>2/22/18</td>
<td>Calvary Bible Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech Finals</td>
<td>4th – 8th</td>
<td>3/13</td>
<td>6:30 - 8:30</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nevada Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEAM Expo 2018</td>
<td>K-12th</td>
<td>4/7</td>
<td>9-3</td>
<td>3/16/18</td>
<td>Nevada County Fairgrounds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Community Read ~ Nevada County Writes Competition**

‘EVERYTHING I NEVER TOLD YOU’ by Celeste Ng

2/21/18  Writing submitted via e-mail by midnight to nevadacountyreads@nevco.org
3/2/18  Judging
3/8/18  1st, 2nd, 3rd place recipients announced at award ceremony to take place in the Off Center Stage at the Center for the Arts, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. The program will highlight an awards presentation and the reading of winning stories.

Quick Reference Calendar continues on page 5
CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo Check Class Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>CLASS DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, January 25</td>
<td>FULL CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo check</td>
<td>3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, February 7</td>
<td>CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo check</td>
<td>3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, February 28</td>
<td>CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo check</td>
<td>3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 8</td>
<td>CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo check</td>
<td>3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 21</td>
<td>CPR/AED/First Aid Skills Demo check</td>
<td>3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</td>
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BTSA Teacher Induction Program

All seminars not online are 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at EJ Educational Options
112 Nevada City Highway ~ Houser Room

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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>YEAR ONE GROUP</th>
<th>ON-LINE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, February 6, 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March seminar</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, April 3, 2018</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>YEAR TWO GROUP</th>
<th>ON-LINE</th>
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<tr>
<td>December seminar</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, January 10, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>February seminar</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>March seminar</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 4, 2018</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>Optional Mentor Seminars</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, December 5, 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 6, 2018</td>
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</table>

McKinney-Vento 2017-18 Quarterly Meeting Schedule

All meetings take place from 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. at NCSOS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>February 7, 2018</td>
<td>Board Room</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>April 17, 2018</td>
<td>Board Room</td>
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Poetry Out Loud

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 13, 2018</td>
<td>Nevada County competitions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 4-5, 2018</td>
<td>State Finals competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 7, 2018</td>
<td>Nevada County STEAM Expo performances of poetry choices are associated to STEM subject matter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 23-25, 2018</td>
<td>Poetry Out Loud National finals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 28, 2018</td>
<td>Sierra Poetry Festival performances of Poetry Out Loud Nevada County finalists</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Quick Reference Calendar continues on page 6
**Become a California Naturalist**
March 7 – May 16 10 week course WEDNESDAYS 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Tech Test Junior**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>DUE DATE</th>
<th>SUBMIT TO</th>
<th>EXAM DATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>7th/8th grades</td>
<td>February 23</td>
<td><a href="mailto:david.r.pistone@gmail.com">david.r.pistone@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>March 12 Hosted by Telestream</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th/6th grades</td>
<td>February 23</td>
<td><a href="mailto:david.r.pistone@gmail.com">david.r.pistone@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>March 13 Hosted by AJA Video</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STEAM Expo 2018 Due Dates/Submissions**

STEAM projects (science), technology/engineering, Art at the Expo, two different math challenges, special exhibitors, and sponsors: go to www.nevcoexpo.org for specific information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISCIPLINES</th>
<th>DUE DATE</th>
<th>SUBMIT TO</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STEAM projects (Science)</td>
<td>March 16</td>
<td><a href="mailto:steam@nevco.org">steam@nevco.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Technology/Engineering</td>
<td>March 16</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dlawell@gvsd.us">dlawell@gvsd.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts at the Expo</td>
<td>March 16</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eliza@nevadacountyarts.org">eliza@nevadacountyarts.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Math challenges</td>
<td>March 16</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cferrero@prsd.us">cferrero@prsd.us</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Exhibitors</td>
<td>March 16</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sjohns@nevco.org">sjohns@nevco.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sponsors</td>
<td>March 16</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jnielsen@nevco.org">jnielsen@nevco.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CA Alliance for Arts Education Student Voices Campaign:**

2-minute video program for 7th-12th Grade Students
April 1, 2018 deadline to submit to CA Alliance for Arts Education
April 7, 2018 STEAM Expo 2018 viewing of selected videos

**PG&E STEM High School Program**

12-1-17 thru 2-5-18 Submission period for HS STEM scholarship applications
1st Wednesday of each month Webinar 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Various Workshops TBD
Various Seminars TBD
Registration http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=hyzzrodab&oeidk=a07eejkriesab69f5ca