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TUOLUMNE COUNTY CELEBRATES STEAM WITH SUCCESSFUL EXPO

More Than 200 Students from Seven Local Schools Participate in the 2023 TCSOS STEAM Expo: Science & Engineering Fair

March 13, 2023 — Sonora, California

The Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools Office (TCSOS) announced the winners of the 2023 TCSOS STEAM Expo: Science & Engineering Fair at the March 10, 2023, awards ceremony that followed the exposition of student and community STEAM activities. The evening event celebrated Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM) in our schools and community. More than 200 students participated from seven local public and private schools.

The STEAM Expo was open to the public and included many hands-on exhibits from different community partners. Columbia College instructor Glen White taught students about magnets. The Tuolumne County Arts Alliance involved families in creating recycled art holograms and displayed student projects for the "Don't Trash Tuolumne" poster contest. The USFS, Stanislaus National Forest, and the CDFW, California Aquarium Education Project, introduced participants to the natural flora and fauna of Tuolumne County. The UCCE 4-H Ambassadors engaged youth with their activity titled "Plant, a Person." The TCSOS STEM department included hands-on math games and engineering design projects for all to enjoy.

Students from Soulsbyville School's fourth grade submitted scientific illustrations, "Ocean Organisms," on display, and the fifth-grade students showed their engineering talents by creating various water collection devices.
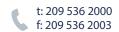
Belleview school first graders modeled clay organisms highlighting structures that help the various organisms survive. The Belleview middle school technology and media class had their school newsletter, "The Eagle Eye," on display for all to see.

Curtis Creek elementary third graders created rollercoasters to drop a ping pong ball in a cup. A group of students came to teach participants how to code "Dash & Dot" robots, and the middle school students created and built various Rube Goldberg Devices and SPIKE Prime robots.

The K - 5 Pinecrest Expedition Academy had several entries in Scientific Inquiry and Engineering Design projects, Rube Goldberg Devices, and Science Fiction writing. The younger students developed a "Water Cycle Diorama."

Summerville High School students from the Biomedical Pathways class demonstrated how to properly use a blood pressure cuff, draw blood, and taught participants about the heart and brain.

After reviewing the 6th - 12th grade Scientific Inquiry and Engineering design project, judges selected the 2023 winners and the Sonora Lions Club provided the funds to purchase awards.

Engineering Design Projects Award Winners:	Physical Science or Chemistry Winners
Honorable Mention Pinecrest Expedition Academy "Dodge Ridge Chair 1 Model" Lucy Yorston	**Honorable Mention** Columbia Elementary "Acoustic Pitches" Shay Cargill
3rd Place Columbia Elementary "Hydroelectric Power" Travis Long	**3rd Place** "Which Stains Teeth the Most?" Columbia Elementary Olivia Kassa
2nd Place Pinecrest Expedition Academy "Hydroelectric Energy" Cole Harden	**2nd Place** Columbia Elementary "Which Liquid Will Clean the Coin Best?" Elizabeth Powell
1st Place Pinecrest Expedition Academy "Solar Powered Electric Skateboard" Zoe Rimmer	**1st Place** Columbia Elementary "Do You Really Need All of the ingredients in a Cupcake Recipe?" Madilyn Andrews
Earth Science Award Winner	Life Science Award Winners
1st Place Columbia Elementary "Soil Erosion" Aurora Olmstead	**2nd Place** Columbia Elementary "Junk Food vs. Your Health" Abigail Reid
	1st Place Columbia Elementary "Fur, Feathers, or Fat" Aeri Mathews

The STEAM Spirit Award was given to a project that the organizing committee determined to exemplify the integration of STEAM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics. The award went to 4th-grade Pinecrest Expedition Academy student, Carter Hard.

The winner for Best of Show and the Karen Bakerville Smith perpetual trophy went to Columbia Elementary School, Aeri Mathews for their project "Fur, Feathers, or Fat".

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