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Engaging the community to help Fresno County students reach their full potential



A message of thanks to our community partners



Thank you for your interest in supporting Fresno County students in reaching their full potential. Because of your generosity, we can continue our mission of engaging the community in the pursuit of educational excellence and preparation for life. This catalogue includes a description of a selected group of student events, and presents opportunities for partial or exclusive sponsorship of these events.

The Office of the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS) is proud of the many opportunities it offers students to demonstrate educational excellence through these student events and programs. In partnership with business, governmental, and civic leaders across the county and state, FCSS coordinates more than 40 student events throughout the year, drawing participation from over 200,000 students from Fresno County's 32 school districts and charter schools.

Every year, thousands of students participate in programs such as music festivals, academic competitions, athletic tournaments, and more. These events promote excellence in the areas of Academics, Agriculture, Arts, and Athletics, and encourage achievement among kindergarten through 12th grade students. Top performers often represent Fresno County in regional, state, and national competitions, proudly showcasing quality education in Fresno County.

The Foundation @ FCOE is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that encourages community investment in public education to bolster Excellence, Access and Innovation for students. Event sponsors support students by funding entry fees, travel costs, training workshops, production needs, and more. We sincerely appreciate your willingness to provide students with opportunities to demonstrate their talents and abilities through projects, performances and competitions. To learn more about an event or to sponsor an event contact the executive director of the The Foundation @ FCOE at 559-265-4036.

With gratitude,

Jim A. Yovino

Fresno County Superintendent of Schools

Cover photographs represent Fresno County students participating in Career Skills Challenge, Kids Day at Pelco by Schneider Electric, Science Fair and Mock Trial.

The Foundation @ FCOE 1111 Van Ness, Third Floor Fresno, California 93721

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www.fcoefoundation.org

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Note: The above list represents a portion of the annual events hosted by the Office of the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools. Contact the executive director for a complete list of events or for other opportunities to invest in students.

Mission

The mission of *The Foundation* @ *FCOE* is to support students by providing exemplary educational programs and services through a shared community responsibility.

Belief

Guided by the belief that education is preparation for life, The Foundation @ FCOE pledges to promote excellence, access and innovation in education for all students.

Fresno County Youth Choir

The FCYC is an auditioned honor group of singers ages 14-26 recruited from the 34 public high schools, three community colleges and two universities in Fresno County. Each summer season culminates in a themed concert series and/or tour. The musical focus of the group is modern and multicultural music that reflects the diverse communities of the Central Valley. This highenergy group often incorporates drama, dance and visual art in their performances.

The FCYC creates public support for music education; connects local high school, college, and university music programs; guides the "next generation" of music teachers, conductors, and singers; and the singers serve as musical ambassadors for Fresno County.



MONTH HELD: Annually in July

LOCATION: Various locations

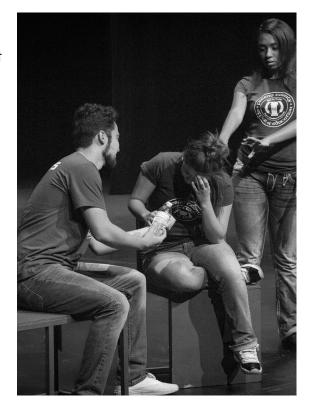
CONTACT: Aaron Bryan (559) 265-3098 ext. 4359

abryan@fcoe.org

"STAGES" Summer Youth Theatre Informance

STAGES is a two-week summer youth theatre project open to all current high school students in Fresno County designed to support theatre education by providing additional educational theatre opportunities.

STAGES seeks to provide students with more than just tools for the stage, but also tools and skills that will help them address difficult issues facing today's youth. During their time in STAGES, students will learn Devised Theatre techniques, skills in writing, movement, voice, acting, and improvisation. They will also have the opportunity to work with other theatre students from around Fresno County.



MONTH HELD: Annually July.......Stages Rehearsals & Service Projects
Annually July-AugustVarious Rehearsals and Performances
Annually August......Performance Finale

LOCATION: Various locations

CONTACT: Aaron Bryan (559) 265-3098 ext. 4359

abryan@fcoe.org

Fresno Area College Night

College Night gives students and their parents an opportunity to speak with representatives from more than 100 colleges, including California State University and University of California campuses, private universities and colleges, community colleges,

accredited vocational colleges, and college clubs and organizations.
Additionally, representatives from financial planning institutions are available.

During the event, students and parents attend workshops that focus on college admissions, financial aid, and other topics that are of interest to new college students. These workshops are available in Hmong and Spanish translations



MONTH HELD: Second Wednesday in September

6:00-8:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Fresno Convention Center, Exhibit Hall

848 M Street, Fresno

CONTACT: Jennifer Quinn-Yovino (559) 265-3014 • jquinn@fcoe.org

Student Art Exhibits

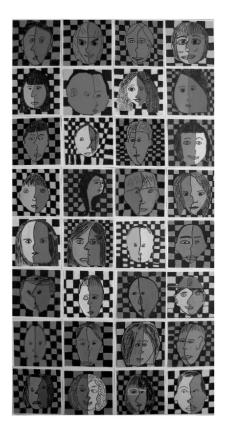
The Youth Art Shows feature more than 5,000 individual entries from 48 schools throughout Fresno County. This show gives students in grades K–12 an opportunity to express their unique creativity in a museum gallery show. At the event, hosted at the Fresno Art Museum, artwork is hung in a beautiful curated showcase of diverse cultures, which is displayed in the ChildSpace Gallery of the museum.

MONTH HELD: Fall and Spring

LOCATION: Fresno Art Museum

CONTACT: Aaron Bryan (559) 265-3098 ext. 4359

abryan@fcoe.org



Access to Higher Education-A2HE

Students in foster care face more challenges than the typical student to graduate from high school and attend college. These students often move from home to home and from school to school causing them to fall behind in school, which can make graduation a challenge. Through three Access to Higher Education (A2HE) events students in foster care realize they CAN go to college, they learn HOW to do it, and they find the people who will be there to HELP them graduate from college with a certificate or diploma. Multiple agencies collaborate annually to provide the A2HE events. A2HE events provide hands-on career exploration and college registration assistance for junior high and high school students, community resources and motivational, leadership and team building activities. Most importantly, they connect with adults who can provide support and guidance during their educational journey.



MONTH HELD: A2HE-High School......Annually in October

A2HE-Middle School.....Annually in March A2HE-Extreme Registration....Annually in April

LOCATION: A2HE-High School.....Fresno City College

A2HE-Middle School.....Fresno State

A2HE-Extreme Registration....Fresno City College

CONTACT: Pam Hancock (559) 265-4003 • phancock@fcoe.org

Career Tech Expo

Career Tech Expo is an annual event that welcomes parents and students to explore and discover various career opportunities available throughout the Central Valley. The event focuses on career pathways in industries such as medical and finance careers, automotive and transportation, building trades and construction, early childhood education, agriculture, energy and utilities, hospitality and tourism, manufacturing, public safety, and engineering, architecture, and small business.

Students and parents have an opportunity to speak to industry professionals about their experiences and get their outlook on future employment opportunities to assist them in planning future goals and careers. There are also hands-on demonstrations and workshops set up to provide students with real-life experiences that are encountered by some of the various employers represented at the event. Local trade schools, apprenticeship programs and colleges will be in attendance, as well as over 160 industry professionals.



MONTH HELD: Annually in October

LOCATION: Chukchansi Park

1800 Tulare St, Fresno, CA

CONTACT: Anthony Ayerza (559) 497-3853 • aayerza@fcoe.org

Scout Island Adventure Challenge

The Scout Island Adventure Challenge is a one-of-a-kind adventure race for high school students and adults. Each year 40 teams of two boys and two girls from local high schools come together and race for the fastest time. Each team must navigate over a three-mile course using clues and a handheld GPS unit. Throughout the course, competitors have to complete 10 - 12 different challenges which test their mental, physical, teamwork and leadership abilities.

There are two main goals for the Adventure Challenge each year. The first goal is to challenge teams to put their learning into action. The second goal is to give students and adults a fun and exciting outdoor experience that encourages them to be more active and physically fit.



MONTH HELD: High School Race in October

LOCATION: Scout Island Education Center

7695 N. Van Ness Ave., Fresno

CONTACT: Brent Smither (559) 497-3829 • bsmither@fcoe.org

Expanding Your Horizons: STEM for Girls in Grades 6-12

Expanding Your Horizons conferences are nationally recognized programs created to motivate young women in science and mathematics. The conference is open to girls ages 6 - 12. Participants experience a motivating keynote speaker and exciting break-out sessions by local women in STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) business and education fields. They will discover how interesting and fun math and science can be and learn about



career opportunities for women in mathematics, science, engineering and technology. Students will form personal contacts with women working in occupations traditionally held by men and meet other young women who share a common interest in science and math.

MONTH HELD: Annually in October

LOCATION: TBA

CONTACT: Jon Dueck (559) 497-3792 • jdueck@fcoe.org

Mock Trial

The Mock Trial is a simulation of an original criminal court case with high school students playing the courtroom roles. Students are given a court case that incorporates roles of various abilities. Students present the case in the courtrooms of the Fresno County Courthouse before presiding judges and attorneys who evaluate each team's performance. The Mock Trial is designed to demystify the workings of our legal institutions for young people.

The competition's format is round robin with each team randomly placed in a pool. The winner from each pool is then eligible for the semi-final and final rounds. Each team is guaranteed four rounds, two as the prosecution and two as the defense.



MONTH HELD: January: Rounds 1-4

February: Semi-Finals and Finals February: Awards Ceremony

LOCATION: Fresno County Superior Courthouse

Federal Courthouse

TorNino's – Awards Ceremony

CONTACT: Pam McGee (559) 265-3077 • pmcgee@fcoe.org

Academic Decathlon

The Academic Decathlon is held to promote and recognize learning and achievement by emphasizing the value of academic excellence for all students, and to foster fair and challenging local, state, and national Academic Decathlon team competitions for high school students.

Teams of nine are comprised of three "A," three "B," and three "C" students that compete in 10 events including seven objective tests, the speech and interview competition and a written essay.

This event endeavors to provide enriching educational experiences that combine the relevant study of cultural and critical topics with strong reasoning and interpersonal skills. The value of the competitions reside in each participant's stretching of his or her capacities and bonding with others. The emphasis is on the personal



growth of each student, who, by meeting the challenges with honesty and integrity, reaps the rewards of greater self-knowledge and self-confidence for the future.

MONTH HELD: Day 1: Last Saturday in January: Essay, Speech and Interview

Day 2: First Saturday in February: Objective Tests & Super Quiz

LOCATIONS: Day 1: Fresno State

Day 2: Central East High School

CONTACT: Jennifer Quinn-Yovino (559) 265-3014 • jquinn@fcoe.org

Martin Luther King, Jr. Contests

Art Contest (Grades K-12)

This contest uses visual mediums to express Dr. King's ideas. Each school site may submit a maximum of eight pieces of student work.

Speech Contest (Grades 4-12)

Students write and deliver an original speech, addressing the theme of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. contests. Each school site may submit three finalists per category. Speeches are presented in front of a panel of judges who select the winning



speech from each grade category. The winning speakers deliver their speech at the Art Reception and Open House.

Essay Contest (Grades 4-12)

Each school site submits essays written by students that express the annual theme of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. contests. Essays are judged on content, creativity, connection to theme and communicative skills. Length of essays: Grades 4-6, 100-300 words; grades 7-8, 300-500 words; and 9-12, 500-1,000 words. The essay winner in each category receives a \$50 gift card, and the essay will be displayed at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Art Reception and Open House.

MONTH HELD: January: Speech Competition

January-February: Art Exhibit

February: Art Reception & Open House

LOCATION: Clovis Veterans Memorial District

808 4th St, Clovis, CA 93612

CONTACT: Pam McGee (559) 265-3077 • pmcgee@fcoe.org

MATHCOUNTS Competition

MATHCOUNTS is a national competition that promotes mathematics achievement. All students in grades 6-8 are eligible to participate. Students have an opportunity to show their mathematical problem-solving skills and to represent their school in academic competition. The winning team will represent the region in the state competition.

The competition has four rounds. The Sprint Round consists of 30 problems that test accuracy. The Target Round features multi-step problems that engage Mathletes in mathematical reasoning and problem-solving processes. The Team Round consists of problems which team members work together to solve. The Countdown Round is a fast-paced, oral



competition for top-scoring individuals where pairs of Mathletes compete against each other and the clock to solve problems.

MONTH HELD: February: Regional Competition

LOCATION: Fresno State, Satellite Student Union

CONTACT: Jonathan Dueck (559) 497-3792 • jdueck@fcoe.org

African American Student Leadership & Education Conference

The annual conference is intended to address the critical components that surround the many dimensions of leadership. These components include concepts of communication, respect, responsibility, ethics, leadership and comportment. The processes utilized will impart skill sets intended to break the cycle of self-deprecating behaviors and replace them with healthy attitudinal shifts. The conference will impart methodologies that create self-esteem, generate and sustain trust,



and elevate the concepts of dignity. Messages will stress that character is the core competency of leadership. The main objectives of the African American Student Leadership Conference are to create an atmosphere of learning in a supportive environment, to provide a better understanding of self and community and to create a learning environment that is conducive to productivity.

MONTH HELD: Annually in February

LOCATION: Fresno Convention Center

848 M Street, Fresno, Fresno

CONTACT: Angie Barfield (559) 497-3876 • abarfield@fcoe.org

CIF Central Section Basketball Finals

The annual Central Section
Finals is one of the most
exciting high school basketball
events in the area! Each year,
the Office of the Fresno
County Superintendent of
Schools has worked
collaboratively with the
California Interscholastic
Federation and Commissioner
Jim Crichlow as the lead
sponsor for the Central Section
Finals High School Boys and
Girls Basketball Finals.



This two-day event draws

11,000 fans to help raise an average of \$30,000 a year for participating schools. The Central Section Finals has been an overwhelming success and a memorable event for student-athletes who participate from throughout the Central Valley!

MONTH HELD: Annually in March

LOCATION: Fresno Convention Center, Selland Arena

848 M Street, Fresno

CONTACT: Brent Smither (559) 497-3829 • bsmither@fcoe.org

History Day

Fresno County History Day is a unique opportunity for students in grades 4-12 to research and present personally meaningful topics relating to an annual theme, and to examine history in a fun and challenging way. Student winners in each category — posters, exhibits, historical papers, web sites, documentaries, and performances — will advance to the State Competition, with the potential to qualify for National History Day.



MONTH HELD: Annually in March

LOCATION: Fresno Pacific University

1717 S. Chestnut Ave., Fresno

CONTACT: Pam McGee (559) 265-3077 • pmcgee@fcoe.org

Fresno County Science Fair

All county students in grades 6-12 are eligible to enter the Fresno County Science Fair. Working on a science fair project introduces students to the scientific method and critical thinking skills they will need to succeed in the 21st Century.

Students from public, private and parochial schools strive to take home ribbons, medals, trophies and more than 100 special awards. Winners from the regional competition advance to state and international competitions.



MONTH HELD: Annually in March

LOCATION: Fresno Fairgrounds, Commerce Building

1121 South Chance Ave., Fresno

CONTACT: Jennifer Weibert (559) 265-3057 • jweibert@fcoe.org

Spell-Off



The Spell-Off is held for qualifying school finalists who participated in district-wide spelling bee competitions. Each participating district may send two representatives in the elementary division and two representatives in the junior high division to compete in the Fresno County Spell-Off.

The elementary division for grades 4-6, consists of an oral competition, and the junior high division for grades 7 and 8, consists of a written competition. The top two winners in each division will represent Fresno County in the California State Spelling Championship. The top two winners from the Fresno County elementary division and junior high division also compete to go on to National Scripps Spelling Bee, which is usually held in Washington D.C. Only one



person will represent Fresno County in National Scripps Spelling Bee. Teachers, school staff, and the contestants' families are encouraged and welcomed at this event.

MONTH HELD: Annually in March

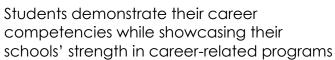
LOCATION: Fresno Convention Center, Exhibit Hall

848 M. Street, Fresno

CONTACT: Pam McGee (559) 265-3077 • pmcgee@fcoe.org

Career Skills Challenge

The Career Skills Challenge is a hands-on, career-focused event, involving 40 competitions in diverse vocations such as medical terminology, welding, crime scene investigation and sports medicine. Nearly 1,500 high school students from more than 30 high schools in Fresno, Madera, and Mariposa counties participate yearly in this intense competition for gold, silver, and bronze medals.





which culminates with the Grand Champion School Trophy. The individual competitions are managed by FCC and CTE instructors as well as local business partners, presenting the strength of partnerships that exist between schools and the business community in the Fresno area.

MONTH HELD: Annually in March

LOCATION: Fresno City College

1101 E. University, Fresno

CONTACT: Anthony Ayerza (559) 497-3853 • aayerza@fcoe.org

Regional Science Olympiad

Science Olympiad is a national, non-profit science organization dedicated to improving the quality of K-12 science education, increasing male, female and minority interest in science and providing recognition for outstanding achievement by both students and teachers. A Science Olympiad team consists of up to 15 middle school and high school students who participate in competitive science tests. Student knowledge and mastery of

process skills in such disciplines as biology, earth science, chemistry, physics, and technology are tested.

By combining events from all disciplines, Science Olympiad encourages a wide crosssection of students to get involved. Emphasis is placed on active, hands-on group



Exploring the World of Science

participation. Winners from the regional competition advance to state and national competitions.

MONTH HELD: March: Fresno Regional Secondary

April: Fresno Regional Elementary

TBD: Nor-Cal State Finals

LOCATIONS: Regional Secondary

Clovis North Education Center 2770 East International Ave., Fresno Regional Elementary
Sunnyside High School
1019 S. Peach Ave., Fresno

State Finals

TBD

CONTACT: Jennifer Weibert (559) 265-3057 • jweibert@fcoe.org

Pentathlon Adventure and Iron Chef

The Pentathlon Adventure consists of five adventures that focus on five characteristics to educate participants. Hundreds of teams vie for the title of Fitness Fanatics or

Health Nuts as they dare to defy themselves through heart-pounding quests such as: Survivor Adventure, Power-Pull, Challenge Mountain/Climbing Wall, Shuttle Run and Plyo-Mid Adventure. This contest emphasizes the importance of: PLAY, TEAM, ACTIVITY, CHARACTER, and NUTRITION; students LEARN the significance of developing a healthy and active lifestyle. Participants can also compete in Team Iron Chef, where budding chefs take on the ultimate



cooking challenge. Culinary whiz kids are given ingredients, cooking equipment, and are faced with time restrictions to create tasty magic! These teams of four develop skills with planning, making choices, team building, self-esteem, and practicing creativity by using their imagination. Team Iron Chef is a dash of time, a pinch of originality, and a cup of enthusiasm.

MONTH HELD: Annually in April

LOCATION: Fresno Fairgrounds

1121 South Chance Ave., Fresno

CONTACT: Cyndi Dean (559) 443-4833 • cdean@fcoe.org

Picture the Valley Film Festival

The Picture the Valley Film Festival is a competition that provides students with a voice to share their unique perspective on life in the Central Valley. Connections to 21st Century learning make this competition an engaging and relevant performance task for all classes. Picture the Valley is open to all Fresno County students. Participants may be individuals or groups and submissions must reflect the work done in the current school year.



In alignment with California's Common Core Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy for the following Writing Standards students will:

- Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
- Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

MONTH HELD: Annually in April

LOCATION: Maya Cinema, Fresno

3090 E Campus Pointe Dr, Fresno

CONTACT: Dr. Mark Archon (559) 497-3787 • marchon@fcoe.org

Young Authors' Faire

The Fresno County Young Author's Faire showcases original student writing. Each participating school may submit 10 books written and illustrated by students in grades K-6. Middle school/junior high students are invited to submit poetry and narrative writing.

Books include both text and illustrations of all genres. A panel of judges reviews each book that is submitted and selects an Exemplary Selection for each grade level category, as well as Honorable Mention and Special Recognition by The Foundation @ FCOE. The books are displayed and the Exemplary Selections are recognized on stage. The purpose of the Annual Young Authors' Faire is to celebrate literacy and encourage quality student writing. A reception is held to acknowledge all participants, their teachers and their parents.



MONTH HELD: Annually in May

LOCATION: Fresno Convention Center, Exhibit Hall

848 M Street, Fresno

CONTACT: Brigeen Houghton (559) 497-3711 • bhoughton@fcoe.org

Kids Day at Pelco by Schneider Electric

Hosted by the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools and sponsored by Pelco by Schneider Electric along with several educational and private donors, this event provides an opportunity for approximately 1,300 students with moderate to severe disabilities, their teachers, support staff and families to enjoy a fun-filled day and experience a multitude of activities provided by hundreds of local community volunteers. It is a great experience for students to engage in positive interactions with community members and community service providers.



Kids Day brings the community and all of its rich resources to the students, as they enjoy music, dancing, fire trucks, police vehicles, several helicopters, animals, face painting, games, take-home learning materials and other hands on activities at the Big Fresno Fairgrounds.

MONTH HELD: Annually in May

LOCATION: Fresno Fairgrounds

1121 S. Chance Ave Fresno, CA 93702

CONTACT: Tangee Pinheiro (559) 265-3051 • tpinheiro@fcoe.org

Elizabeth Hensel (559) 497-3844 • ehensel@fcoe.org

FRIENDS Promotion Ceremony

The FCSS FRIENDS program provides special education services to eligible children ages birth to 3 years and their families who reside within the Fresno County SELPA. Services are provided in the child's natural environment with a focus on helping parents and other significant care providers become the child's primary and most

effective teachers.

This annual event celebrates the parents and their children who are transitioning from the FRIENDS program. There are many family friendly activities, refreshments, and speakers involved in this half-day event.



MONTH HELD: TBD

LOCATION: Ramacher Complex

COST: No cost to students

CONTACT: Tammy Frates (559) 265-4033 • tfrates@fcoe.org

Adult Transition Program Commencement

As a service provider to the districts within Fresno County, the Adult Transition Program serves as a link between the public school system and the world of post-school adult services. Instruction is provided at over 20 different sites throughout the regional area, including utilization of community college campuses, university campuses, adult school and community-based settings. Major instructional emphasis focuses on preparing each student for the transition to adult life.

Services for students with moderate to severe intellectual disabilities are provided to assist students transitioning from high school to adult life. Adult students exit the program at a culminating commencement ceremony where they receive an official Certificate of Completion.



MONTH HELD: Annually in May

LOCATION: Fresno Fairgrounds

1121 S. Chance Ave Fresno, CA 93702

CONTACT: Tammie Kabeary (559) 497-3807 • tkabeary@fcoe.org

Migrant Honor Student Recognition Banquet

Migrant Education is a national program that provides supplemental educational and support services to eligible migrant children each year. These services help children of migrant workers overcome the disadvantages they face, such as is disruption to their education due to mobility, poor nutrition and health, and poverty. The Office of the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools manages the largest Migrant Education program in the state.

Through the Migrant Education program students are provided with supplemental educational and support services, such as English Language Development and Academic Intervention, as well as College Awareness Programs and Resiliency and Mentoring. Many migrant students celebrate overcoming obstacles and even outstanding achievement upon their high school graduation in this annual celebration. Scholarships and special recognition are highlights of this event.



MONTH HELD: Annually in May

LOCATION: TorNino's Banquet Hall

5080 N. Blackstone, Fresno

CONTACT: Evaristo Trevino (559) 497-3995 • etrevino@fcoe.org



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WWW.FCOEFOUNDATION.ORG