

East Side Union High School District



Kudos

ACADEMIC, PERSONAL AND SOCIAL SUCCESS FOR EACH AND EVERY STUDENT

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Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Honors Two East Side Union Administrators

The **Association of California School Administrators (ACSA)** honored **Superintendent Joe Coto** and **Associate Principal Carol Blackerby** last week at its annual awards recognition dinner. Superintendent Coto was selected as the ACSA Region VIII "Superintendent of the Year" and Associate Principal Carol Blackerby was selected as the Region VIII Secondary Co-Administrator of the Year. Superintendent Coto also was selected as the statewide "Superintendent of the Year."

ACSA Vice President of Awards **Linda Aceves** highlighted the many achievements of each of the honorees and presented them with their awards.

Superintendent Coto will also be honored at the annual ACSA conference in November for receiving the statewide "Superintendent of the Year" honor.

Evergreen Valley Honors Major Contributors

On May 6, 2003, **State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell** and members of the community joined Evergreen Valley students and staff to honor two key business partners, **Lorry I. Lokey**, president and CEO of **Business Wire**, and **Applied Materials Foundation** Vice President of Global Community Affairs, **Michael O'Farrell**. These two individuals have been instrumental in obtaining significant resources for our information-age high school.



Lorry Lokey, Business Wire

Mr. Lokey has made what is believed to be the largest contribution to a California public high school, \$2.5 million. His donation led to the development of the Lorry I. Lokey Technology Center on campus. Applied Materials Foundation bestowed a generous grant of \$1 million to create a Center of Excellence professional development program that will be piloted at Evergreen Valley High

School and then spread to the rest of the District. The goals of the grant focus on facilitating the highest quality adult learning, continuous improvement and on-going support for staff.



State Superintendent Jack O'Connell

Present to help celebrate the occasion, in addition to Superintendent Jack O'Connell, was renowned education thinker and Professor of Education at Stanford University

Linda Darling-Hammond, former Mayor **Susan Hammer** and District 8 City Councilmember **David Cortese**. These dignitaries commended the business partners for their investment in public education and encouraged the District and the school to keep true to their vision of success for all. The members of the **East Side Union Board of Trustees** and the **Superintendent** added their appreciation for the support and presented Mr. Lokey and Mr. O'Farrell with awards of excellence.

The East Side community thanks Mr. Lokey and Mr. O'Farrell for their tremendous support.



Michael O'Farrell, Applied Materials



East Side Teachers Honored by Former Students

Eighteen East Side teachers were honored at San Jose State University on May 14, 2003 for receiving the **Dorothy Wright Award for Excellence in High School Teaching**.

Each year freshmen at San Jose State University are asked to identify those high school teachers who best prepared them for their college writing courses. Hundreds of the questionnaires are collected and tabulated, then the award winners are honored in a campus ceremony in late spring. The award is named after a former member of the San Jose State Department of English, Dorothy Wright, who distinguished herself for her commitment to teacher education. The award's unique character is that its recipients are nominated by former students. San Jose State English Department Faculty, students, other members of the University community and East Side administrators attended the ceremony honoring the following award winners:

- **Eleanor Aguirre** — William C. Overfelt
- **Patricia Bolster** - Piedmont Hills
- **Marty Brandt** — Independence
- **William Carpenter** — Mount Pleasant
- **Monique Childs** — Piedmont Hills
- **Maureen Degnan** — Yerba Buena
- **Jim Frazee** — Overfelt
- **David Garfalo** — Oak Grove
- **Rick Korbel** — Oak Grove
- **Bettina Lopez** — Mt. Pleasant
- **Michelle Madrigal** — Silver Creek
- **Ted Okano** — Silver Creek
- **Paula Ridley** - Mt. Pleasant
- **William Sheehy** - Santa Teresa
- **Michele Shibley** — James Lick
- **Rachel Stanek** — Independence
- **Peggy Stover** — Independence
- **Jessica Thomas** - Andrew Hill

Congratulations to these outstanding teachers for having a tremendous impact on their students. To read the comments written by the students, visit <http://www.sjsu.edu/depts/english/wright.htm>.

Andrew Hill Computer Graphic Design Students Receive Recognition

Congratulations to Andrew Hill senior **Brian Velasquez**, state winner in the 17th Annual Art Contest sponsored by the Nutrition Advisory Council with the California School Food Service Association. Students were asked to create artwork suitable for a t-shirt based around the theme "School Meals - Feeding America's Future."

Brian's work was featured on the t-shirt and has been submitted to the national competition where 12 winners will be selected. Another outstanding senior, **Juan Oracio**, was contacted by the San Jose Barnstormers, a semi-professional football team, to design their helmet sticker. Juan's submission to the Blossom Valley Athletic League contest for their "Honor the Game" flag was selected. The flags are displayed at athletic events for all 26 member schools.

Both students are enrolled in the **Computer Graphic Design** class at Andrew Hill and are demonstrating that they have the skills to be competitive in the job market.

Congratulations to these students on their achievements and kudos to Computer Design Teacher **Kathy Farmer** for preparing her students for the future.

Independence Students Respond Overwhelmingly to Lunch Activities

Independence teachers **Jeremiah Ellison** and **Ryan Pryor** decided that a good way to help with lunch supervision and get students to exercise was to organize 3 on 3 basketball games at lunch. They passed the word onto their students and arranged for adult supervision and 'referee-ing' using their lunch to make sure that the students had everything they needed. Neither were prepared for the outpouring of enthusiasm which the students displayed. They had over 100 students wanting to play and another 200 or more spectators for these lunch games. Ellison said "It was exciting for me to see some of my quieter students get positive recognition from others for demonstrating their teamwork and leadership skills." Kudos to Jeremiah and Ryan for organizing these positive activities that help our students grow.



Evergreen Valley Student Accepted into Harvard Summer Program

Julia Lam, an Evergreen Valley High School sophomore in the Science and Technology School, has been accepted into a very prestigious program at Harvard University this summer. She is one of a select few sophomores from around the country to be accepted to a program designed primarily for juniors and seniors. Julia will be attending an 8-week session that offers classes in history, math, English, and fine arts.

Congratulations to Julia on this honor; we know she will represent East Side well.

Piedmont Hills Teacher Awarded 2003 College Board AP Fellows Stipend

Rey Delatorre Enriquez has been awarded a 2003 College Board Advanced Placement Fellows stipend. The stipend assists teachers with the cost of attending an AP summer institute. The institute provides an excellent opportunity for teachers to increase their command of a specific AP subject; learn instructional strategies from other teachers; and learn the latest curriculum changes.

The College Board Fellows Program awards these fellows to teachers who have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in education and a willingness to make an extra effort to strengthen the AP program at their school.

Congratulations to Rey on this award.



Santa Teresa Students Win Logo Contest

Students in the **Santa Teresa Desktop Publishing** class won 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in the Tamale Logo contest sponsored by the **Story Road Business Association**. The contest was open to all students in San Jose.

Each student won \$250 and a \$1000 scholarship. **Kolika Davis'** 1st place logo will be used to market the Tamale Festival in October; it will be highlighted on all the marketing materials.

The winners were:

- 1st Place - **Kolika Davis**, freshman, Desktop Publishing I
- 2nd Place - **Amanda Hsueh**, senior, Desktop Publishing III
- 3rd Place - **Andrea Waldron**, junior, Desktop Publishing I

Congratulations to our student winners and to their teachers, **Linda Sparling** and **Diana Britton-Keller**. East Side thanks **Fernando Borja** from the Story Road Business Association for involving our students in this activity.

James Lick High School and the Alum Rock Village Celebrate New Look

Last weekend San Jose City Councilmember **Nora Campos**, Superintendent **Joe Coto**, Redevelopment Director **Sandra Escobar**, Principal **Bernie Olmos** and Senior **Eddie Schofield** officially cut the ribbon to the newly remodeled James Lick Parking Lot.

This area, located on the corner of Alum Rock Avenue and White Road, has been remodeled through a partnership with the City of San Jose's Redevelopment Agency and the East Side Union High School District.

Thanks to the leadership of Councilmember **Nora Campos**, the Redevelopment Agency was able to work with the District to create a win-win project. James Lick received a resurfaced, beautifully landscaped parking lot with improved lighting, a new wrought iron fence and an electronic marquee with a minimum investment by the district. In

return the retailers in the Alum Rock Village have ample parking spaces available for their customers after 3 p.m. during the week and all day on the weekends.

In addition to the ribbon ceremony, the **James Lick Leadership** class sponsored a carnival for the community with games and activities. **Peter's Bakery** and **Rafiki's Coffee Hut** provided refreshments and the adjacent businesses offered discount coupons for food and retail items. James Lick Student Board Representative **Hector Sandoval** and ASB VP **Lupita Bonilla** welcomed the community and Senior **Rogelio Mendez** served as Master of Ceremonies and DJ for the afternoon.

Kudos to the many champions of this beautification project: Councilmember **Nora Campos**, Superintendent **Joe Coto**, Redevelopment Director **Sandra Escobar**,

Principal **Bernie Olmos**, Associate Principal **Victor Maestas**, Community Liaison **Mary Ann Andrade**, Assistant Superintendent **Karen Willett**, Director of Construction **Alan Garofalo**, Department Secretary **Kathy Lanford**, James Lick Senior **Eddie Schofield** and Architect **Vince Latfanzio** from Carducci Landscaping.



Independent Study Students Receive Scholarships

In May a ceremony was held to honor the Independent Study students who received the "George Shirakawa Scholarship." The \$200 award for students who continue their education after high school is completely funded and supported entirely by the teachers in the program. The Director of Independent Study, **Elias Chamorro**, emphasized the East Side has one of the best programs in the state staffed with dedicated teachers and support staff. He recognized the teachers are not only required to teach a wide range of subjects, but also perform extensive documentation to satisfy state requirements.

Superintendent **Joe Coto** expressed his appreciation for all the hard work done by the staff and students.



Students who receive credit in Independent Studies have to be motivated and disciplined to be successful. Teachers nominate students, who are then asked to write essays. This year, nine outstanding students were recognized with scholarships for their efforts. Congratulations to everyone involved in the Independent Study program.

- **Jennifer Bullard** – Nominated by **Ezequiel Contreras**
- **Zicri Hernandez** – Nominated by **Judith Chamberlin**
- **Tiffany Keena** – Nominated by **Ezequiel Contreras**
- **Inez Martinez** – Nominated by **Saundra Velez**
- **Alili Mejia** – Nominated by **Saundra Velez**
- **Amber Owens** – Nominated by **Deborah Raymond**
- **Maria Ramirez** – Nominated by **Deborah Raymond**
- **Julian Saito** – Nominated by **Saundra Velez**
- **Janeth Sapien** – Nominated by **Nonie Pugh**



East Side Academies Salute Business Partner

Earlier this month, IBM hosted the **Electronics Academies** senior event for the 5th consecutive year. Seniors from Independence, Silver Creek and Overfelt Electronics Academies were honored at this celebration. The Electronics Academies are industry-school partnership programs that seek to provide youth with employment skills and opportunities. IBM has been an active corporate sponsor of the Electronics Academies since their inception in 1985. IBM has consistently provided mentors, summer jobs and curriculum guidance.

"Not only did they host us, they played a major part in the program," said **Brenda Childress**, Director of Career Services. IBM's Vice President and General Manager of Data Management **Tom Rossamilia** welcomed the soon to be graduates and Manager of MIS Development **Blanca Borden** provided the keynote address. "Having the event at IBM makes the students feel special and connected to our business partners," said Industry Liaison **Michelle Smith**, "and we certainly appreciate the commitment they have to our students."

Piedmont Hills' Students Enter 2004 National Merit Scholarship Program

Six juniors from Piedmont Hills, **Carol Goodwin, Debbie Lin, Isabel To, Kevin Wang, James Yamat, and Joanne Yao**, have met the requirements to enter the **2004 National Merit Scholarship Program**.

Students are accepted into the program based on their scores on the PSAT. These students scored in the top 5% of the over 1,000,000 who took the test and they will be heavily recruited by colleges around the country. They will also compete for Merit Scholarship awards next year.

Twenty-One East Side Teachers Complete San Jose State University Educational Leadership Program

Huge sighs of relief were heard across the district last week when 21 teachers finished a long, two-year journey! These teacher leaders earned their master's degrees and completed the **SJSU Educational Leadership Program**.

The graduation ceremony was held at the Education Center on May 19, 2003. Prior to receiving their diplomas, teams of teachers made formal presentations to guests and supporting supervisors on their major projects. The teams worked on a project that would benefit their schools.

Kudos to **Laurene Payne, Fredella Stewart**, adjunct professors to the program, and SJSU Director **Marsha Speck** and Education Leadership Chair **Barbara**

Gottesman who provided support to these teachers as they proceeded on their journey!

Congratulations to our graduates:

- Andrew Hill: **Robert Ibarra, Kirsten King, Brian Uhler, Joseph Van Sambeek;**
- Santa Teresa: **Kathleen Gonzalez, Michael Payne-Alex;**
- Yerba Buena: **Shirley Barajas, Juan Cruz, Marla Valladarez;**
- Independence: **Jack Elwell, Aaron Palm, Gregory Sprague;**
- Oak Grove: **Martha Brazil, Charles Brown;**
- Silver Creek: **Mary Barrett, Teresa Ceja, Laurie Weckesser;**
- Overfelt: **Floyd Hurndon, Theresa McRae-Hurndon, Eva Williams, Malaika Young.**



Andrew Hill Receives 3-Year Grant

Congratulation to Andrew Hill for receiving a \$250,000 three-year grant award from the California Department of Education and the Attorney General's Office to continue the **Falcon Family Club Afterschool Program**.

There were only 31 sites funded for this grant throughout the state. Andrew Hill and Castro Valley were the only sites funded in the greater bay area, which demonstrates the strength of the Andrew Hill program. Their program includes sports, arts, peer activities, parent and student support groups and the **Graduation Academy**. A strong point of the Andrew Hill model is the demonstrated integration and collaboration component with community partners.

Kudos to **Bill Mustanish**, Advisor and MST Coordinator, and **Carla Holtzclaw**, Safety in Schools Teacher on Special Assignment, for developing a strong after-school program that meets the needs of students and capturing the key elements of that program in the proposal.

Silver Creek Student Named Athlete of the Week

Jacob Tolbert, Senior at Silver Creek, was selected as the **San Jose Mercury News Athlete of the Week** this month for his accomplishments in track and field.

He was touted for leading the Raiders to the Blossom Valley Athletic League Mt. Hamilton Division title by winning the long jump, triple jump and 800 meters and anchoring the 1600 relay team to a second-place finish.

Silver Creek Coach **Chuck Bean** was quoted as saying, "Jacob is our team leader and captain, and he has a great way of inspiring his teammates. He has been our go-to-guy and does whatever it takes to help the team win. As far as we can tell in our league, there hasn't been an athlete who has won titles in those three events, at least in the last 30 years."

Congratulations to Jacob on his many accomplishments and kudos to Coach Bean for providing support and guidance to our students.

Representatives from Mt. Pleasant Present at Baldrige Conference

Principal **Art Darin**, Baldrige Coordinator **Jim deDiego** and ASB President **Ashley Galvan** presented a workshop at the recent **National Baldrige in Education Journey Conference** held in Santa Clara. Their workshop topic was "Using Performance Scorecards in a High School." Over 300 educators from around the country attended the conference.

The Baldrige in Education model is built upon the premise that in order to get the best performance from the people in your organization there needs to be a structure-systems approach. The model guides an organization to clearly define its vision, mission and core values; identify the needs and expectations of stakeholders; develop measurable goals and methods for monitoring progress toward achievement of those goals; establish improvement cycles; provide on-going support for employees; and recognize accomplishments. The performance card is a tool that enables an organization/division/class/individual to track continuous improvement.

Many of the Mt. Pleasant staff and students have been trained in the Baldrige process and the school is using the initiative to drive improvement. Over the past several years, Mt. Pleasant has realized improvements in their attendance rates and student achievement and a decrease in the dropout and suspension rates.

This Mt. Pleasant team also presented at last year's conference. They received outstanding reviews from the participants and used the opportunity to solicit feedback and ideas for improvement. ASB President Galvan told the editor-in-chief of the Cardinal Tribune, "The presentation was a pleasure to be a part of; other schools now have an idea of what great things are happening at Mt. Pleasant."

Congratulations to the Mt. Pleasant team on their presentation and to the staff for pioneering this approach to improvement.

City Honors Santa Teresa Students for Homework Centers' Designs

Santa Teresa High School students **Amanda Hseuth** and **Mary Milazzo** walked away from last Tuesday's San Jose City Council meeting with smiles on their faces. Councilmember **Forrest Williams** awarded each of them a framed certificate and public recognition for winning the graphic designs of the revised City Homework Centers' logo and poster.

This unique competition was devised through the collaborative efforts of **Abraham Chacko**, Coordinator of the San Jose Homework Centers Program; **Kay Banchemo**, Santa Teresa STYLE Director; as well as **Linda Sparling** and **Diana Britton-Keller**, Santa Teresa Publishing Technologies Magnet program teachers.

Last October, Mr. Chacko presented the criteria for the logo and poster to the Desktop Publishing classes of 60 students. The logo and poster criteria required the following:

- Eye-catching to elementary, middle, and high school students,
- Modern and fresh,
- Satisfy the City's purpose of the Homework Centers' Program,
- Communicate clearly the location and times of tutoring.

From 60 designs, three finalists and a first-place and second place winners were selected. Amanda Hseuth's logo came in first-place. Students then designed a poster using the winning logo. Parks and



Amanda Hseuth's Winning Logo

Recreation Homework Centers staff again did the selection process and selected the winning poster. Amanda and Mary collaborated to finalize the poster that will be used by 235 Homework Centers in San Jose.

Both young ladies expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to participate in this project. "It was a real-world project that provided a valuable learning experience . . . it was wonderful to be able to give back to the city in this way," said Amanda. "It was really exciting to work on the City of San Jose Homework Centers' poster . . . I was honored to participate in this service-learning project that will be utilized throughout the 235 city homework centers," said Mary.

Commendations to both young ladies for a job well done and kudos to their supporting staff - Kay Banchemo, Linda Sparling and Diana Britton-Keller. Special thanks to Councilmember Forrest Williams for taking the time to honor these students at a Council meeting.

Special Prom for Special Students

Thanks to the efforts of W.C. Overfelt's Special Education teacher **Jeff Rehrig** and dedicated staff and parents, 95 students, 25 parents and staff members attended a prom at the Fairmont Hotel.

It was the 2nd annual "Very Special Prom" and students from Evergreen Valley, Mt. Pleasant, Piedmont Hills, Santa Teresa, Overfelt and Yerba Buena enjoyed an afternoon of dining, dancing and a slide show at a first-class facility. "This Prom illustrates the philosophy the parents and teachers have regarding special needs students: give them a wide range of 'life skills' and social experiences to develop and prepare them for adult life. The organizers are to be commended. The students had a ball — or is that Prom!" said Overfelt Principal **Tim McDonough**.

Kudos to Jeff Rehrig who coordinated the event, and to the following teachers who assisted with supervision: **Dorothy Hines** (Evergreen Valley), **Ruth Villarruz Gaston** (Mt. Pleasant), **Nonglak Prasopsook** (Piedmont Hills), **Antonio Centeno** (Santa Teresa), and **Nancy Pors** (Yerba Buena). The students and parents dedicated the Prom to Jeff Rehrig for his dedication and commitment.

We would also like to recognize the following major sponsors: **San Jose Fairmont, Special Education Parent Club Fund, East Side Union High School District**, Transportation Coordinator **Lisa Therres**, Photography Coordinator **Encarnacion Hidalgo**, **Kinko's Oakland Road**, **Berryessa Longs Drugs**, **Innovators Salon**, **Carl Thomas**, and **Tom and Terri Horiye**.

Andrew Hill's Health Professions Program Capitalizes on Technology

Andrew Hill's **Health Professions Program** developed a partnership with **DeAnza College** enabling students to take a 3-quarter unit *Medical Terminology* distant learning class. Students have been meeting after school since April with their instructor, **Ms. Pat Hassel** of DeAnza College. Seven Oak Grove High School students have enrolled in the class along with 29 students from Andrew Hill. They will complete the 36-hour course next week. A special Tech-Prep grant from DeAnza/Foothill College has paid for tuition and books for the 36 students who are enrolled in the course.

The students have been excited about the opportunity. "The *Medical Terminology* course that I am taking at Andrew Hill High School has been great. So far, we have learned about internal body parts, as well as medical suffixes. We have also learned about different specialists and specialties. Because of this, I now know about different doctors and their duties. This course has been a huge window of opportunity. What is so important is that it has given me a head start in what I plan to do and pursue in college. It has further encouraged me to go on and strive at becoming a professional in the medical field," said student **Ebony Reed**.

Kudos to **Marilyn Bliss**, Health Professions Coordinator, for constantly looking at ways to enhance offerings to students.

East San Jose Kiwanis Scholarship Winners Honored

The East San Jose Kiwanis held their **35th Annual Turnaround Scholarship** luncheon this month honoring 15 East Side Union students. Each winner was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to further his or her education. Students were selected based on major turnarounds that they made in their academic lives. Based on the testimonies made by the awardees at the luncheon, it was evident that they had overcome significant challenges to improve their grades. These students are now graduating from high school and planning to attend college.

The scholarships are available because of the generosity and support of the following people and companies: **Leo Shortino, Barry Swenson, Kirk Rothman, Appian Engineering and Jack Estill, San Jose Downtown Kiwanis Club, Roem Development, Wells Fargo Bank, and Hispanic Development Corporation.**

Special kudos to the East San Jose Kiwanis members who organized the luncheon: **Queen Ann Cannon, Dolores Santa Cruz, Elias Chamorro, Bud LoMonaco, Mary Ann Andrade and Gerald Rodriguez** and to the Master of Ceremonies, **Brian Adams**.

East Side salutes its winners:

- **Erica Diaz** - Andrew Hill
- **Nicole Allen** - Foothill
- **Krystle Navarrette** - Independence
- **Yesenia Mendoza** - James Lick
- **Jesse Zamora** - Mt. Pleasant
- **Precious Dass** - Oak Grove
- **Sandra Allen** - Pegasus
- **Nehemiah Candelaria** - Piedmont Hills
- **Julie Phan** - Santa Teresa
- **Britney Alanna Slater** - Silver Creek
- **Joseph Veloria** - W.C. Overfelt
- **Vanessa Corona** - Yerba Buena
- **Jennifer Pierce** - Adult Education
- **Erick Gallegos** - Job Corp
- **Cecelia Garza** - Job Corp



East Side Students Selected as Public Policy Interns

Vision New America, a Silicon Valley nonprofit organization, selected four East Side students for their summer **Public Policy Internship Program**. **Vanessa Flores** (James Lick), **Katherine Koh** (Piedmont Hills), **Christine Nguyen** and **Jessica Nguyen** (Evergreen Valley) were among thirty high school students selected from an extremely competitive applicant pool for this prestigious opportunity. Vision New America promotes the civic and political participation of Asian Americans. The students will be placed in state, county, and city levels of government. The goals of the internship program



Vanessa Flores

are: to provide the students with insight and exposure to governmental affairs and public policy; to build relationships between the Asian-American community and public officials; and to encourage Asian Americans to participate in politics and community service.

The screening process for the internship program is rigorous and based



Katherine Koh



Christine Nguyen

on the applicant's academic achievements, community service experiences and communication skills. Interns receive a formal orientation on office protocol and potential challenges prior to the start of the assignment. Each intern is required to register 10 new Asian-American voters as a part of the program commitment to increase the civic and political participation of Asian Americans.

Congratulations to our East Side interns. Our elected officials will surely be impressed.



Jessica Nguyen

East Side Productions and Students Nominated for 2003 High School Music Theatre Honors Awards

The American Musical Theatre of San Jose announced the nominees for the 2003 High School Music Theatre Honors Awards and East Side is well represented with the following nominations...

- Best Musical is Piedmont Hills' production of *Guys & Dolls*, directed by **Patty Gassman**;
- Best Female Performer - **Julie Wall** for the role of Adelaide in Piedmont Hills' production of *Guys & Dolls*;
- Best Supporting Role Female - **Ernestine Balli** for the role of Jan in Independence's production of *Grease*;
- Best Supporting Role Male - **Nersi Carun** for the role of Nicely-Nicely in Piedmont Hills' production of *Guys & Dolls*;
- Best Supporting Role Male - **Jake Lyka** for the role of Roger in Independence's production of *Grease*;
- Best Student Orchestra Award - Piedmont Hills production of *Guys & Dolls*, **Kathy Tippetts** conducting.

Students from 28 high schools in the bay area compete for these awards. The awards will be presented at a special ceremony on June 4 at the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts. Nominees from the category of Best Musical will perform parts of their play at the awards ceremony.

Congratulations to our East Side Student Stars and to Director **Patty Gassman** and Conductor **Kathy Tippetts** on their nominations and we wish all of you good luck on the 4th.

Free Community Feeding

The East Side Union High School District has a free community feeding for children ages 1 to 18. Food will be served from the school cafeterias at the following sites:

- Andrew Hill, June 16 to July 30, 10:20 to 10:40 am
- James Lick, June 16 to July 30, 10:09 to 10:30 am
- W.C. Overfelt, June 19 to July 25, 10:20 to 10:45 am
- Mt. Pleasant, June 16 to July 30, 10:10 to 10:30 am

For more information, call Child Nutrition Services at 347-5191.

Piedmont Hills Students Win 1st Place in Writing Contests

Two Piedmont Hills juniors, **Angela Hsaio** and **Judy Choy**, won first place in different writing contests. Both students entered writings they had prepared in English 2A in preparation for Piedmont's International Fair.

Angela Hsaio received 1st prize for her "Heritage Poem" in the Villa Montalvo Writing Contest. Villa Montalvo is a non-profit organization dedicated to inspiring a love of the arts by promoting the best of the literary, performing, and visual arts and providing significant arts experiences for children. Angela will receive her award at Villa Montalvo, which is located in the Saratoga hills.



Angela Hsaio

Judy Choy won first place in the KQED Writing Contest with her family immigration story entitled "Unknown Wilderness."



Judy Choy

KQED will be coming to Piedmont Hills to award Judy her laptop prize. Congratulations to both of these outstanding writers and to their teacher, **Nancy Kennett**, for pushing them to excel.



Keith Ancar, Commissioner Steve Sterns, Floyd Hurndon

East Side Coaches Honored

Four East Side coaches were selected by the Central Coast Section for the prestigious "Honor Coach" awards. Honored at the spring meeting were: **Manuel Aquirre** (James Lick Boys' Tennis), **Keith Ancar** (Overfelt Swimming and Diving), **Kelly Dougherty** (Independence Softball) and **Floyd Hurndon** (Overfelt Track and Field).

This honor is presented to coaches whose colleagues believe that they have made outstanding contributions to the sport, league and community. They look for individuals who maintain high standards and are seen as an inspiration and role model for their students, colleagues and community.

Because of the criteria established for this recognition and the process of selection by ones coaching peers, the Honor Coach designation is one coaches can be very proud to receive. East Side recognizes that quality programs are attained by quality players and quality coaches and accomplishments in a sport reach far beyond the "wins and losses."

Congratulations to these outstanding coaches.

James Lick Offers English Tutoring to Parents and Community

Every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. at James Lick, 80 parents and community members are learning or improving their English language skills. Using funding from the **CBET** (Community Based English Tutors) program, James Lick has been able to offer this service to the community.

Two levels of English classes are offered - a basic level and a conversational level. Technology is incorporated to enable participants to develop communication skills through interactive programs.

To encourage and support parent attendance and meet the needs of the participants, daycare is provided and breakfast and lunch are offered. James Lick students play a critical role by volunteering to help with daycare and in return they receive community service hours for their participation.

Kudos to **Mildred Llanos-Richards** for coordinating this important and successful program and providing a valuable service to our community.

Bank of America East Side Students Receive Bank of America Scholarships

Congratulations to seniors **Karla Alvarez** from Piedmont Hills and **Bhupinder Saini** from James Lick for receiving \$500 scholarships from Bank of America. In order to qualify for this scholarship program these students had to maintain a GPA of 3.5 or greater and have impressive lists of extracurricular activities. Both students were regional finalists; Karla competed in the category of Applied Arts and Bhupinder in the category of Science and Mathematics. The students were honored by Bank of America at a luncheon at the Doubletree Hotel earlier this month.



East Side Students Advise Congressman Mike Honda

Tina Hanh Tran, Piedmont Hills sophomore, and **Yha' Mourhia Wright**, Santa Teresa sophomore, spent this past school year advising **Congressman Mike Honda** on key issues affecting young people. These students served on the 15th Congressional District Student Advisory Committee. The students met monthly and provided insight to the congressman on issues impacting teenagers. This year, teen mental health was a major focus of discussion. In fact the students have been working with Congressman Honda to develop a public service announcement on this topic.

Congressman Honda commended the work of the East Side representatives. "These young women were very sharp, articulate and committed to helping to address problems not just raising them. I felt fortunate to have them on my committee," said Honda.

Congratulations to Tina and Yha' Mourhia for representing the students of the East Side so well. Kudos to Congressman Honda for involving our students in political discussions and valuing their input.

Silver Creek Hosts DUI Trial

Superior Court Judge **Art Bocanegra** held a DUI trial at Silver Creek earlier this month. Over 250 students, many from the **Legal Studies Academy**, witnessed the actual trial of a 38-year-old man arrested for driving under the influence. Students not only learned about the judicial process, they saw the consequences drinking and driving have on an individual's life. Although the judge makes the decision in these cases, 12 students were able to participate as a mock jury. The student jurors listened to the presentations by both sides, deliberated in the library and presented their verdict to the judge.

After the trial, Judge Bocanegra made a brief presentation and co-facilitated an interactive session. All parties were involved in the discussion – judge, defendant, attorneys, witnesses, law officers, teachers and students.

Conducting a DUI trial in a high school is an innovative strategy being used by Santa Clara County to help reduce community alcohol problems. Santa Clara is pioneering this approach and has held 12 trials in schools around the county. Silver Creek is the 4th school in East Side to host a trial. The program was developed by the **Traffic Safe Communities Network** and it involves a cooperative effort among the Santa Clara County Public Health Department, Superior Court, Office of the District Attorney, Office of the Public Defender and the school districts.

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for 15-19 year olds and alcohol is a primary factor. The objective of this program is to get students to think seriously about the consequences of drinking and driving so they can resist any pressures to drink when they are driving. This session was held on May 2, the day before the Senior Ball.

Kudos to Judge Art Bocanegra, the participants in the trial and to SC Lead Legal Studies Teacher **David J. Rosenblatt** for arranging this opportunity for students.



Independence Teacher Selected as Outstanding Teacher of the Year

The **Carlston Foundation**, a California non-profit organization, selected Independence English teacher **Martin Brandt** as one of its outstanding teachers of the year. Each year the Foundation honors five teachers that have made a difference for students. They interview students, particularly ones who have overcome challenges, and ask them if any particular person had assisted them in achieving success. The teachers selected have had several students credit them with making a difference in their lives.

Five teachers from throughout the state are chosen each year for the award. The teachers receive personal checks and their school receives \$5,000 for an educational program.

Congratulation to Martin on this outstanding recognition.

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