

# THE EAGLE

SUMMER 2013  
VOLUME 7 / ISSUE 3

*"You are never too old to  
set another goal or to  
dream a new  
dream."*

C.S. Lewis



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## Bonjour, mes amis!

Have you thought about ROLLIE? What is ROLLIE Foreign Language? No, it's not a pill bug... ROLLIE (Renaissance On LIne) is our online companion to our Renaissance Academies. Renaissance High School aims to empower students to take charge of their learning, to gain the skills and knowledge necessary to achieve success beyond high school, and to become lifelong learners. If you are in homeschool and have wanted to learn a foreign language but have struggled finding a software program or are unable to attend Spanish at one of our Learning Centers, then ROLLIE Foreign Language is for you!

With ROLLIE Foreign Language, you currently have the option of studying Spanish level 1, 2 or 3. We are also excited to announce that French 1 has been successful this past year and plans are in place to offer French 1 and 2 next year.

Warren Stratton is your ROLLIE Foreign Language instructor. He makes learning a foreign language both practical and fun. You will learn how to read, write, listen and converse in French or Spanish from the comfort of your home, without having to drive to attend classes. You will attend class virtually by logging into our online classroom to speak and practice two times per week. The rest of the workload is done independently throughout the week and extra help/tutoring is available. Don't be scared if you're a computer newbie. Our instructor is able to help you with the computer skills they need to be successful in the class.

ROLLIE Spanish 1, 2, and 3 and French 1 and 2 are designed to meet both high school graduation requirements and college entrance requirements. Some middle school students have attempted the class and been tremendously successful as well. Talk to your ES for more information or to sign up for next year.

iNos vemos en clase!



*Warren Stratton*  
Foreign Language Specialist

## *Dear Homeschool Families,*

Recently, there was an online article by Ray Fisman detailing some new charter school research entitled “Do Charter Schools Work? Yes, but not always and not for everyone.” This subtitle made me laugh because...well, duh. Everyone at River Springs understands that our type of schooling doesn't work for every child. And obviously, traditional public school doesn't always work for every child. So, that's all the more reason to provide a multitude of free schooling options (AKA charter schools) for students.

Education is the most important thing we do for our children, so it's unwise to put all our resources into one method of schooling. And at River Springs, we are taking our own advice! Because we feel it's so important to be able to provide high quality classroom options in every county we serve, River Springs Charter School is replicating. We are opening a school in San Bernardino County called Empire Springs and one in San Diego County called Harbor Springs. Each school has a different governing board, but they share the same mission, vision, and leadership. Keep your eye on our website for news and events.

The upcoming year's theme, Education on the Cutting Edge, is all about educational innovation. How do we teach so that children not only do well on a standardized test, but also on real-world applications of those skills? Psychologists contend that one powerful way we learn is when our expectations fail. When students try something “real” that doesn't work, they are driven to figure out a way that works. Watch any toddler or video gamer for proof of this. Our charge as educators is to create learning experiences that are experiential and motivating for our kids. Innovative personalized learning is the ticket! As you begin your summer vacation, learning continues both for you and your children. Make the most out of this break from routine to do something new and exciting. Learning something new WITH your child is a bonding experience. And, while you're at it, make sure to mark your calendars for our

annual Pechanga Inspire Conference on August 14th. It's your opportunity to attend workshops, collaborate with other educators and generally get fired-up for the year ahead. I look forward to seeing you all in August!

*Kathleen Hermsmeyer*



# Internships at River Springs Charter School

by Judy Adair, Internship Coordinator



The Internship Program is all about the experience. Each student experiences what it is like to work in the real world doing what they believe they want to do. It's an extraordinary opportunity. Imagine feeling uncertain in choosing a career path to start on after graduation. Internship in an area of interest can help build confidence and experience.

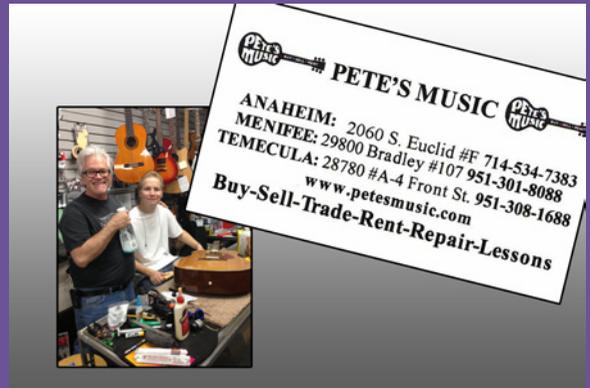
The first component of the program is an eight week academic course. The students' research areas of interest, write resumes, practice interview skills and learn what it takes to be an effective member of any workplace environment. The students then move on to the second component, the internship. Students are placed in an internship within their community that allows them to actively engage in their area of interest. The enormous success this year shows in the nearly 150 students placed in internships and hearing their exceptional stories.

**Bailee Ellis** was placed with the Lake Elsinore Animal Hospital. She assisted in office work, was promoted to assisting with pre-op and post-op surgery, and was able to work side by side with the doctors. Bailee was offered a part-time job and they are going to mentor her through school.

**David Roll** worked at Pete's music with business mentors with extensive experience. David is a productive member of the staff, has learned business in general, experienced firsthand what being an entrepreneur is like, and worked with music business experts.

**Avalon Glenn** completed her second year interning for Bigfoot Graphics under the supervision of Tony Moramarco. She experienced real world graphic design scenarios, created her own designs, is entering art competitions, creating films, and taking her experience to a level beyond anyone's expectation.

Create your own Internship story through internships in political offices, fitness centers, photo studios, salons, classrooms, museums, libraries, bird sanctuaries, law offices, physical therapy practices, retail stores, martial arts studios, churches, comic book stores, dance studios, equestrian centers, bakeries, auto repair, theaters and so many more places.



It has been a wonderful year of exciting adventures in experiencing what a career could be like in a field that is loved and how that may fit into their future plans.

It only gets better for these students who have had the privilege to Intern. Our goal for next year is to see continued growth.

If you know of a business that would make a great partner for our program, let us know or you have any questions about the Internship Program contact one of our internship coordinators.

Judy.Adair@riverspringscharter.org or  
Gabriella.Baumert@riverspringscharter.org

## INTERNS 2012/13



# KEYS Career & College Prep

By Catherine Hanson, Keys Program Director

As we get to the end of a very productive semester, it is nice to look back and review all the wonderful successes of the year. KEYS High School has made some big changes this year which have really made a difference to our students.

- We have moved to sites to meet our students each week. At the sites, the students meet with their teacher, work in the study room, get help with schoolwork, and learn to work independently. We have had many students take advantage of the learning opportunity and spend many hours in the study room. Several of the sites have specific hours for math help which have also been very successful.
- We have worked to teach our students Independent Study skills so that they can operate in the real world, making decisions, managing their time, organizing their work, and completing assignments. Students who embrace the idea of being independent learners have really improved in their school success. Because of the emphasis on independent learning in the KEYS program, we have found that our students are more prepared than their peers to handle the independence of college life.

KEYS Career & College Prep is not an easy program. Courses are at the A-G level, and students are encouraged to apply for dual enrollment when that option is available. Students also are encouraged to participate in Internships, learning about and working in careers that interest them. The KEYS program is a challenging program in which students are held accountable for upholding their agreement.

Many students thrive in an atmosphere where teachers believe in their capabilities and where they feel like they have really accomplished something when they are finished. The work may be hard but teachers and aides are always available to give encouragement and support. The KEYS program focuses on the students, guiding them in organizing their work, showing them time management skills, helping them set goals, and teaching them different learning strategies. In the KEYS program, relationships matter.

We have 48 students graduating this year, and we are very proud of them. We have students who want to work independently so that they can participate in racing, biking, Olympic sports, music, and the entertainment industry. We have students who are striving to enter a 4 year university and for scholarships. These students work hard to achieve their goals. We have students who want to be the best that they can be, and we encourage excellence in every area.

"As a senior at RSCS I have learned many things.

It is not my first time attempting homeschool; however it is my first time succeeding in a homeschool program! I started out with horrible grades and little by little I started elevating myself. As of today I have straight A's and I am very proud of that! I have learned to be responsible and not to procrastinate. I am very happy and proud of everything I have accomplished. I can finally say that no matter what difficulties come in life, with faith and determination anything and everything is possible!"

-Gloria Solares graduates this year!

"I will be attending and playing soccer for Cerritos College next year! The traveling begins this June, I'm heading to Florida!"- Areeana Richardson

"This year, as a junior at RSCS, I have already started taking Sign Language Class at Golden West College and I have really been enjoying it!" - Kaylene Hoffman is finishing her 3rd ASL class at Golden West College!

"It was my first time attempting to homeschool and after the first few weeks I understood the program and how it all works, I take Geometry and Biology at a learning center in Costa Mesa. I also joined a Choir called OCMCO and have already performed at a concert" -Carter Low also just got accepted to a camp to learn Chinese at BYU this summer!

Haley Newton renewed her passion in photography this year and landed a terrific job with a surf company in San Clemente!

"So far this year has been great; I am doing a lot better in school. I am back into drumming and making lots of friends" -Kyle Joy has been working hard at his academics this year!

"I am young and know what I want in life. I am a successful model and actor and I am excited to see what the future has in store for me!" -Tyler Quinn just won Junior Actor of the Year at an IMTA (International Modeling and Talent Agency) competition!

**KEYS is an innovative program, combining the best of Independent Study, on-site courses, dual enrollment, internships, study rooms, and one-on-one encouragement to ensure each student's success. KEYS cares. Have questions about the KEYS program? Email [lynne.arnold@riverspringscharter.org](mailto:lynne.arnold@riverspringscharter.org).**

# SCIENCE FAIR



March 1st was a beautiful day, and our families were able to enjoy a huge sports park and public library at the Orange Terrace Community Center, while the projects were being judged. A BIG thanks goes out to our judges Gabe Baumert, April Jacoby, Melissa Stagle, and Carly Mahoney. They were diligent in working as a team to get all of the projects judged within 2 hours!



- DIVISION 9-12:**
- ◇ Gollnick, Justin
  - ◇ Gravett, Courtney
  - ◇ Rodriquez, Kloey



- DIVISION 6-8:**
- ◇ Doepner, Mary Travis
  - ◇ Doepner, Dabney Margaret
  - ◇ Runyan, Cameron
  - ◇ Collins, Makenzie
  - ◇ Creveling, Kathryn
  - ◇ Webb, Savannah



- DIVISION 4-5:**
- ◇ Jones, Corrine
  - ◇ Rodriquez, Jacob
  - ◇ Brown, Hosea
  - ◇ Cortes, James
  - ◇ Cortes, Vanessa
  - ◇ Fox, Tyson
  - ◇ Themm, Chandler

## TALENT SHOW/INSPIRED LEARNER EXPO 2013

Homeschool Events ended with a big “BANG” this May as our very talented students performed in our Talent Show and presented their Inspired Learner projects! Families enjoyed a wonderful afternoon watching our students sing, dance, play instruments, and perform martial arts. Before, during, and after the show, families had the opportunity to “Meet an Expert” as they explored our Inspired Learner projects. These projects are designed by our students and Parent Certification renewal parents. They become the “expert” on a specific topic. Once again, our Homeschool families proved that River Springs Really Does Have Talent!



# COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS & RIVER SPRINGS

BY VIVIAN PRICE, DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT



Yes, it is true! The Common Core State Standards have arrived and they will replace the California standards that we have known since 1997!

You may have heard whispers about the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Perhaps you are wondering how your student will be impacted by these new standards or if the change will be difficult. We realize that the unknown makes most of us a little uneasy, but rest assured that we will be rolling out the CCSS with lots of information and resources to support implementation. This year we have spent time getting our staff ready to support our Springs Charter Schools' families. Read on to learn a little bit about the Common Core Standards!

Many teachers across the country are excited about these new standards, especially because they focus on high-level thinking and authentic learning rather than just memorizing facts and

figures. This focus makes the CCSS a relatively comfortable fit for Springs Charter Schools and is more in line with our mission and vision than the current state standards. We work hard to stay ahead of the curve!

We have always believed that students deserve a high-quality, rigorous education in which learning is real! We know the experiences of applying knowledge in real-life situations are those that truly prepare students for life after high school. The CCSS call these experiences "Performance Tasks." We call them business as usual!

We have been planning carefully over the past few years so that full adoption of these standards will be reasonably smooth. In the upcoming months, we will highlight the shifts in math and English and keep you informed about what the new standards mean to our valued families. As always our annual conference at Pechanga will have many interesting workshops focused on the CCSS.



## QUICK FACTS

- The CCSS are a national set of standards intended to ensure that all students, no matter where they live, will graduate from high school college or career ready. Currently 45 states have adopted these standard.
- The CCSS include many of the same standards that we have been teaching for years. Some standards have been moved up or down a grade. It's not all new!
- The standards are a progression of learning expectations in English language arts and mathematics used to guide teaching and learning from kindergarten through high school.
- The CCSS for English language arts include standards for use in English language arts courses, as well as literacy standards in history/social studies, science, and technical subjects.
- The CCSS for mathematics include two types of standards: one for mathematical practice (how students are able to apply and extend math principles) and one for mathematical content (what students know about math). The two are linked together while students are learning.
- The CCSS were designed to prepare students to succeed in a competitive global economy. Students today have to compete not only with their American peers in other states, but also with students from around the world.
- With the adoption of the CCSS, states and districts can share experiences, teaching practices, instructional materials, and approaches helping support and reinforce learning.
- New assessments used to measure students' progress during and at the end of the school year will be designed for students in grades 3-12.



# HISTORY DAY

By: Rebekah Pendleton & Hannah Tinker, Homeschool Students

Our parents challenged us to participate in National History Day. Having no experience we started by looking at the NHD website and went to a History Day event at the Nixon Library where we learned all about how to create a project. We spent three months researching and creating our exhibit.



Learning how to research properly was a huge eye opener. We found it to be more time consuming than we ever expected. True research is not just going on Google. We were hunting for primary sources that proved that our topic, 'Portable Cameras', changed lives. We found appropriate sources at the Library of Congress, Duke University and Rochester University. We displayed our project on a three paneled board and were able to find a 90+ year old brownie camera to display. We first showed our project in the homeschool competition, then the school wide competition, and then advanced to the Riverside County competition.

In preparation for the county competition, we spent more time digging for primary sources, collected more cameras to add to our display, and enhanced our exhibit. We changed the board to a rotating 3D board that displayed actual portable cameras behind glass.



We won the Junior Group Exhibit division and advanced to the NHD State competition in Sacramento. We considered the judges' comments and spent more time working on our project analysis and rearranged several things on our board. We were also able to visit the Library of Congress in Washington DC where we talked to several helpful librarians and conducted more research.



In April, we traveled to Sacramento for the state competition, put our board on display against 34 others, and had an interview with 3 judges. We were very excited to be one of the top 8 finalists. The top eight were judged again and the top 2 projects advanced to the NHD competition held in Maryland. We were disappointed that we didn't qualify for nationals, but we enjoyed all of the time we spent working on the project. We look forward to participating in NHD in the future.



**Rebekah Pendleton and Hannah Tinker:** 3...2...1..Click! The Birth of Pictures & its Impact on Us

**Group Exhibit** - Homeschool Program  
1st Place for Group Exhibit at the Junior Level

**Josh Greene:**

The Nazi-Soviet Pact and The Soviet-Japanese Pact

**Individual Exhibit** - Flabob Airport Preparatory Academy



# GUIDANCE

## Summer Learning Programs

Intellectual engagement doesn't have to end when the school year does. In addition to jobs, internships, and volunteering, students should consider summer learning programs. Colleges offer teens the chance to explore everything from the arts and sciences to languages and athletics. Opportunities range from a single course at the local community college to an intensive residential program on a four-year campus.

The benefits of summer college study are many. Students get to preview college life, broaden their horizons and fend off the summer doldrums. They might even be able to earn credit for their work.

While programs can be expensive, some financial aid is available. The government also sponsors Upward Bound programs. These are designed for teens from low-income families or those who are the first in their family to attend college.

To learn more about summer study programs visit CollegeBoard ([www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org](http://www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org)) Home/Get Started/Inside the Classroom/Summer Learning Programs: What, Why and How.



## How to Make Your Summer Count

It's important to take a break, relax, and have some fun over the summer, but it's also a great time to do something that will interest and challenge you. Here are some suggestions from CollegeBoard for ways to make your summer worthwhile.

### 1. Get hands-on experience

Make the most of your summer by getting hands-on experience in the real world, whether through a paid job, volunteer work, or an internship. Summer work allows you to develop new skills and looks good on a college application. It shows that you are a dedicated, goal-oriented person — and one who's likely to succeed.

### 2. Take a class

Consider exploring an interest that you don't have time for during the school year. It may mean learning a new language or gaining in-depth knowledge in a favorite subject, such as chemistry. Get more information about summer learning programs.

### 3. Join or form a book club

Participating in a book club is a great way to become comfortable sharing your thoughts in a group setting, a common activity in college classes. You can also work on organizational and leadership skills if you help create the reading list or set up some of the meetings.

### 4. Keep a journal

Keeping a diary or a blog is a great way to boost your writing skills. You may even find the perfect topic for a college-application essay as you write about a vacation you took or your experiences at work or with friends.

### 5. Read the news

Reading is the best way to build your vocabulary, expand your knowledge, and learn to analyze text. Reading newspapers and magazines — in print or online — keeps you informed about important current and world events. You might even discover a new passion if you stumble across the right story.

#### What now?

When summer's over, keep the excitement and motivation going. Read the CollegeBoard article, *Learning What You Love in High School* (<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-started/inside-the-classroom/learning-what-you-love-in-high-school>) to learn how.





# HOME SCHOOL EVENTS!



## SPREE

February 27th

Upbeat staff and families made for a great morning followed by the ICAN! ice cream social. Thanks so much to our Orange County staff for rockin' it! This ends our SPREE events for the year, but be on the lookout for next year's fun-filled events!



# HOMESCHOOL CAMPUS PROGRAMS

## Learning Center Workshops

Our new building on Chicago Avenue finally feels like home, and enrichment classes for our K-8th grade homeschool students are better than ever! Two days per week (Tues. & Thurs.) we continue to embrace and promote the gifts and talents of our students through workshops that include favorites such as Musical Theater, American Girl, and Exploring STEM, as well as new choices coming this year, such as Writing the Common Core Way. We often hear that the lives of homeschool students are changed because of the friendships they have made here and the academic support they've received. Our teachers are passionate about creating ways to engage kids in the learning process and building a connection. Our students find the Riverside Student Center a safe place to make friends in a positive social atmosphere!



## Core Classes

High School Algebra 1 & 2, Geometry, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Spanish 1 & 2 meet both Tuesdays and Thursdays. High School classes are intended to provide direct instruction and hands-on experience twice a week for courses that may prove particularly challenging to teach at home.

## Mosaic

Our Mosaic program is essentially a hybrid program of traditional school (three days each week on site) and homeschool (two days a week at home). This program gets its strength from the powerful collaboration that takes place between the teachers and parents each week, working together to personalize the students' education. Through this personalization, we are able to focus on each child's ability level, targeting that student to achieve the best and most successful results. We also feel that community is a big part of the classroom, and this type of program allows families to utilize the world as their classroom each week, fostering their child's innate curiosity in new and exciting ways. Working hand-in-hand with the teachers in this process results in a very well-rounded child.



## Enrichment

Enrichment classes are a wonderful opportunity for students to add to their curriculum at home. There are different classes to choose from, such as Caldecott Literature, Art, Reading and Writing, Math and Science, learning about California's unique story with fun lessons, and an interactive writer's workshop.

# SCHOOLWIDE SPELLING BEE 2013



RIVER SPRINGS HAS AWESOME SPELLERS!  
Congratulations go out to **Chandler Themm**, first place winner of our schoolwide Spelling Bee in January! Chandler is a 5th grade Homeschool student and represented River Springs at the Riverside County Spelling Bee on March 2013 in Moreno Valley.

Our second place winner was **Andrew Giarrusso** an 8th grade student from Magnolia Student

Center. All thirty of our 4th-8th grade students who participated studied very hard and did an excellent job at the BEE. We look forward to seeing them all back next year!



## By Gina Wickwire, Academic Achievement Advisor

You made it! It's the end of the year and all you can think about is...Let's plan a summer homeschool lesson! Hmm...probably not! Wouldn't you love to take a short break & just breathe! The idea of planning a summer of homeschooling can be demanding and time-consuming. See it as a fun project as my family did & create inspiring lessons that are memorable and open-ended. Have your student chose a unit of study that they are interested in & designed each unit with them in mind.

With hot summer days and cool summer evenings, we would take a restful afternoon break and end our lesson in the evening with beautiful poetry of the sounds, smells, and tastes of summer days and nights. We love to write poetry, research constellations, and read each evening under the stars. My daughter found this to be the most enjoyable time of her day, sitting on our wicker settee out in the garden, surrounded by twinkle lights, and writing in her journal. Even camping, or on a trip, she would remember to throw her journal in her bag, so she could end each evening listening to the night sounds around her, writing poetry, or reflecting on what she learned each day.

### Helpful Tips for a Successful Homeschooling Summer

Design interesting and simple lessons - Have your child help select subjects they like - Personalize their classroom together - Make interactive centers - Buy inexpensive materials or use household items for activities - Set out the materials the night before - Create activities that involve crafts, cooking, imagining, sensory, writing, and nature.

If you are looking for engaging summer lessons and activities, look no further:  
<http://www.everythinghomeschooling.com/summeractivities.aspx>.



“Hot Summer Days, Cool Summer Nights”



# — KUDOS FOR KIDS —

**Benjamin Guerrieri** recently completed a successful season as a competitive gymnast. He qualified for a regional/5-state meet by achieving his best overall score of the year at the state level. He also won the state championship in the handstand competition and received a trophy naming him "Mr. Handstand" after more than 2 minutes without moving or coming down. At regionals in Reno, Nevada, Ben placed 9 out of 40 athletes based on his overall score on rings, vault, pommel, high bar, parallel bar, and floor exercise. Ben's short-term goal is to move up from level 6 to level 7 and qualify for next year's regional meet in Hawaii. For the long term, he would like to earn a college scholarship for gymnastics and represent the United States in the Olympics.



**Catherine Williammee** participated in a 2-day "Winter Olympics" camp (January 2013) put on by the Pony club where the girls played games on horseback and enjoyed a fun day of competition. She won 1st place in her level 18 inch on "Lucy."



My name is **Chandler Joy Themm**, I am 10 years old. I did a science experiment on "The Effect of Stomach Acid on Natural and Processed Foods" in the River Springs Science Fair and won second place on Tuesday, February 12, 2013. My favorite subjects are math and science. When I am older I want to be a doctor or a science teacher. I am currently writing a children's Anatomy Book that I had on display with my science experiment. My science experiment will be going to county on March 1, 2013. Thank you River Springs for giving me the opportunity to do what I love, science!



# KUDOS FOR KIDS



**Ian Van Bebber** will be a junior this fall in the Keys program. He has been performing on stage since he was 10 years old and has even had the opportunity to work in both television and film. He really enjoys the thrill of live entertainment and is featured in two theatre productions this summer in Temecula. Ian will be performing in the musical "Fame" as Joe Vegas at The Act 1 Community Theatre May 31 - June 9, 2013, more info at [www.act1theaterarts.com](http://www.act1theaterarts.com) and will be featured in Inland Valley Classical Ballet Theatre's production of "Don Quixote" as the character Camacho July 12 - 14, 2013. This will be the first time Don Quixote will be performed in the Temecula area visit [www.IVCBT.org](http://www.IVCBT.org) for more details on the show! Ian will also be volunteering two weeks this summer in the Inland Valley Performing Arts Summer Camp as a camp mentor ([www.IvyDayCamp.com](http://www.IvyDayCamp.com)) sharing his love for performing arts with others.

**Kaedin Kluis**, is a 5 year old from Fallbrook enrolled in KN. Kaedin worked hard and enjoyed creating his solar system science project complete with all the planets around the sun. He thinks that Jupiter is the coolest planet because it is the largest. He was very excited to show off his project to his ES. Kaedin also loves to read and his favorite book is "Cars, Trucks, and Things that Go" by Richard Scary. He also likes swimming, tennis, and karate.



**Jacob Palmer**, a recipient of the Air Force Pilot Training Class 70-05 scholarship, is Flabob Airport's newest pilot as of December 10, 2012, and is a senior at Flabob Airport Preparatory Academy. Jacob started his in John Emmons' historic "Fighting Grasshopper" Piper Club, and finished in Dave Rogers' Cessna 172. He is involved with the Tom Wathen Center, has attended Air Academy, worked on the SkyCoupe Project, and is in the Internship program. He has volunteered as a Young Eagles cadet, for Flabob's community events, Air Venture in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, as a DC-3 Docent, and he has done presentations for the Tom Wathen Center. Jacob and his father have been working on their 1947 Aeronca 11CC Super Chief, and Jacob is hoping to get his "taildragger" endorsement in January. Congratulations!

# ○ KUDOS FOR KIDS ○

**Jesse Clayton**, 6th grade student in the Mosaic Program, took up Archery in July of 2012, after attending a weeklong Man Vs. Wild Wilderness Camp in June. Archery was one of the activities introduced and he has been hooked ever since. He is a student at Willow Creek Archery in Escondido. Jesse competed in his first Outdoor State Championship in the summer of 2012, placing 2nd in the state. He continued to compete last year at local tournaments in San Diego, winning the divisions for his age group. In January of 2013, he attended his first ranking State tournament in Tulare, CA. Jesse won the Junior Olympic Archery Division (JOAD), compound freestyle bowman division, and the State of California Indoor Champion in his division, with a personal best score. Jesse continues to practice and attends group and private lessons. He will be competing in two National ranking tournaments in February and all the California State Championships in 2013, traveling as far as Sacramento. Jesse's goal is to compete and win them all, in order to receive a Grand Slam Award.

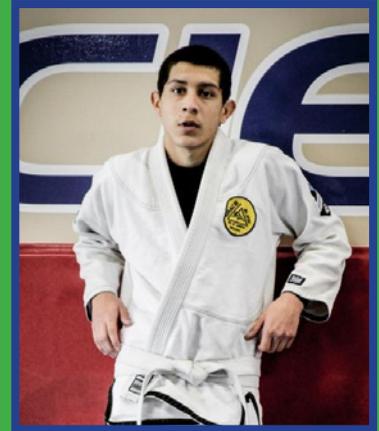


**Maddison Rickard** is a 17 year old junior and has been a Riversprings student for 3 years. Since age 4, Maddi has been involved in theater, music, and dance. Though only a teenager, she is a veteran actress, being involved in over 20 plays. As a young girl, she played many a boy part like Pinocchio, Chip in "Beauty and the Beast," and the Mayor of Munchkin Land in "Wizard of Oz." She's also played many an animal part as well like a kangaroo, cat, dog, lizard, and skunk. She's been involved at the Christian Arts Theater in Corona, Riverside Youth Theater, Junior University in San Bernardino, and Lifehouse Theater in Redlands. She is currently playing in "Anne of Green Gables" as Diana at Lifehouse. She's had the opportunity to sing the National Anthem for the Los Angeles Lakers, L.A. Clippers, and locally for the Inland Empire 66ers and Little League Regional Championships. She is also involved in leading worship in Youth Ministry at Harvest Christian Fellowship in Riverside. Maddi also loves to sing, play the guitar, and write. She hopes to double major in English and Musical Theater when she goes to college after her senior year.



# KUDOS FOR KIDS

Keys Junior **Mitchell Gonzales** works hard at Brazilian Jiu Jitsu and he competes on a regular basis. He recently competed in the Pan-Ams BJJ Tournament and last week he won **FIRST PLACE** in the Gracie-Humaita Annual Third Competition. He currently holds a Blue Belt.



When asked about her early drawing experiences, 9th grade Keys student, **Rachel Quinton**, laughs, "I scribbled in primary finger-paint, and I remember eating some of it." Rachel's first taste of art rapidly progressed from doodles and stick figures to sophisticated drawings. She typically begins with an idea by browsing images and looking through magazines. She finds an image that she feels best interprets her idea and begins a freehand sketch. The landscape of Molen de Bloem in The Netherlands (shown behind the text here) took around an hour and a half. "Animals take longer," she explains, "because you have to capture the emotions in their expressions and eyes. This summer Rachel plans to explore new media, such as watercolor and oil paint. Her dream is to study fine art at the Chicago Institute of Art. Rachel has not settled on a particular style. "I admire artists for different reasons. I like Van Gogh's use of light and Da Vinci's ability to do more than just paint." Rachel has attended River Springs Charter School since the fifth grade as part of the Murrieta site's Classical Minds program. The program's emphasis on cultural studies enabled her to broaden her ideas about what constitutes art and how artists communicate through their work. She is continuing her artistic explorations through Key's Visual Arts and Drawing courses. Ultimately, though, art is more than a subject. As Rachel puts it, "art is the most fun part of my day."



# WRITING CONTEST 2013

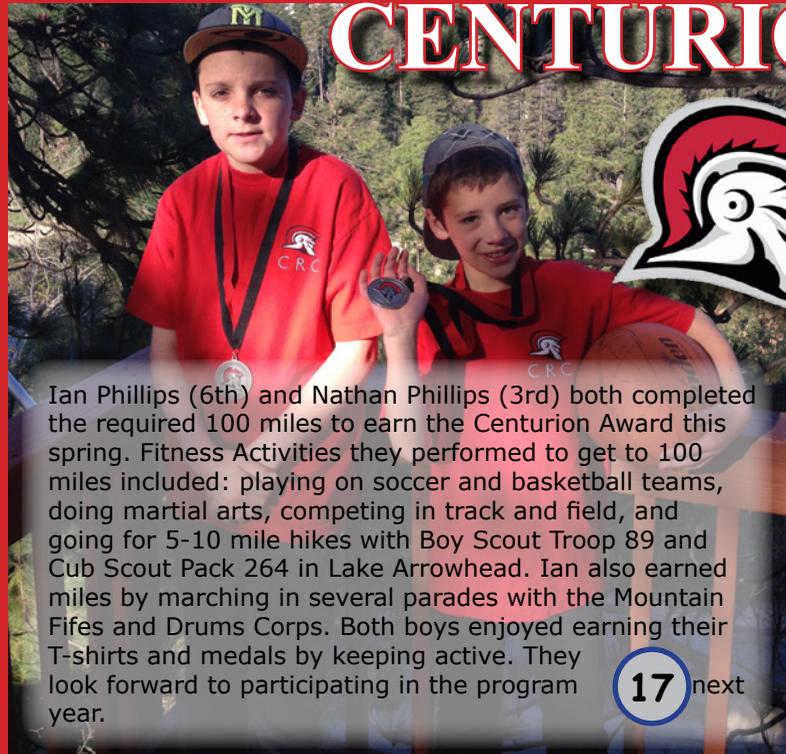
CONGRATUALTIONS go out to all Homeschool RSCS students that participated in our "Young Author's Writing Contest"! This year, we had 42 amazing entries! Students in grades K-8 were eligible to compete in the Caldecott and Newbery categories. Some of the creative titles included: "May May Travels To Hawaii", "Lalaloopsy Party", "The Adventures of Poor Jimmy-Goo", "The Clue of the Red Feather", "The Girl and the Goat!", and many more! Our students enjoyed an afternoon assembly by The Imagination Machine who acted out many of the students' stories with their incredible talent and humor. All students were then recognized for their effort with an awards ceremony and delicious cupcakes! Great job kids!

## WRITING ENTRIES 2013

STUDENT NAME	GRADE	STUDENT NAME	GRADE
Laila Abolfathi	4	K	
Sofia Abolfathi	6	Reece Kim	5
Bailey Bland	1	Nigel Kim	8
Sydney Burr	2	Ben Lemasters Tahir	2
Luke Burr	3	Evehenia Lemasters Tahir	5
Christopher Chandler	3	David Lemasters Tahir	K
Jonathan Dixon	3	Elena McClanahan	7
Kaysee French	2	Rebekah Means	4
Robynne French	7	Reagan Ness	5
Natalie Greenwood	1	Grace Newman	4
Ella Hachee	5	Nathanael Newman	6
Jackson Hachee	K	Nathan Phillips	3
Raechyl Henson	6	Ian Phillips	6
Charity Hernandez	7	Catrina Richter	4
Samantha Ihde	3	Nathan Joel Sabol	2
Danielle Ihde	4	Joseph Daniel Sabol	5
Abigail Ingram	2	Timory Shaner	4
Jessica Ivy	8	Chandler Themm	5
Isaak Johnson	1	Audrey Thompson	2
Mikah Johnson	3	Russell Thompson	3
Kailah Johnson		Colin Thompson	5



# CENTURIONS



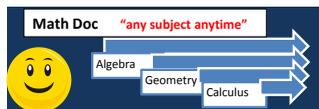
Ian Phillips (6th) and Nathan Phillips (3rd) both completed the required 100 miles to earn the Centurion Award this spring. Fitness Activities they performed to get to 100 miles included: playing on soccer and basketball teams, doing martial arts, competing in track and field, and going for 5-10 mile hikes with Boy Scout Troop 89 and Cub Scout Pack 264 in Lake Arrowhead. Ian also earned miles by marching in several parades with the Mountain Fifes and Drums Corps. Both boys enjoyed earning their T-shirts and medals by keeping active. They look forward to participating in the program

**17** next year.

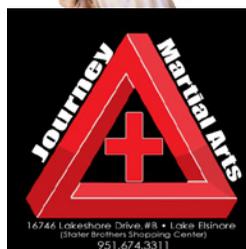


Sarah, looking for ways to increase her activity, opted to walk to and from art class one month (2 miles each way) as well as occasional trips to and from Wal Mart (one and a half miles each way), not to mention the upper body workout from carrying the bags! Practicing bumps, serves and volleys also helps to keep her fit as well as just having fun in the pool and skateboarding uphill.

Our vendors are very involved with our charter and help to sponsor different events. We would like to thank those vendors who add greatly to our school!



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KidsArt Student, Maya, age 7

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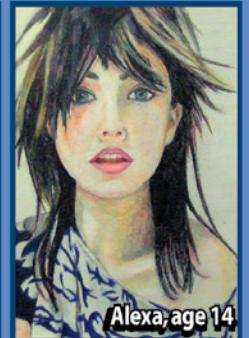


Aaron, age 13

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Alexa, age 14

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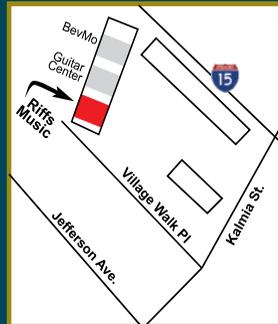
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