

Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Superintendent of Schools 5100 Business Center Drive, Fairfield, CA 94534-1658

707.399.4400 ★ www.solanocoe.net

NEWS RELEASE - For immediate release

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Organization: Solano County Office of Education

Contact: Jennifer Leonard, Assistant Superintendent of Communications & Community Engagement

Phone: (707) 399-4429 Email: Plo@solanocoe.net

Red-Carpet Film Premiere Celebrates Neurodiversity

VACAVILLE, CA – Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) is hosting its annual red-carpet film premiere to celebrate neurodiversity and the accomplishments of young adults who attended SCOE's Inclusion Film camp this summer. The fanfare and red-carpet walk will commence at 5:30 PM on Thursday, November 2, 2023 at Sunrise Event Center in Vacaville.

SCOE partners with North Bay Regional Center and the Department of Rehabilitation to host a summer film camp at no cost to participants. The camps aim to foster creativity, promote inclusivity, collaboration and provide job skills training for individuals with neurodiverse abilities. The red-carpet premiere event highlights the achievements of the camp participants and builds community around them as they transition to more independent living. Through longstanding partnerships with other agencies, employers and community organizations, SCOE has expanded its reach and created more opportunities for individuals as they adjust into adulthood.

Each year, SCOE contracts with Inclusion Films, founded by veteran filmmaker Joey Travolta, to provide the film camp. Inclusion Films has garnered recognition for its innovative and creative approach to job skills development. The organization helps empower individuals with neurodiverse abilities to gain confidence and independence and has also contributed to a more inclusive workforce.

Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson remarked, "SCOE's partnerships around film camp and the film premiere celebration are not only about job skills development. We come together to build community around our young people, to positively impact their lives, remove barriers and create a more inclusive community in which for them to thrive."

Inclusion Films provides experiences in various aspects of film production, including acting, editing, cinematography, and more. Participants have the opportunity to learn from industry professionals and develop valuable skills. The production company then produces short films that the camp participants developed, which are premiered at the red-carpet celebration.

SCOE expects approximately 450 attendees at this year's event. Members of the community can <u>reserve</u> tickets until 4:00 PM on November 2nd.

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Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) provides leadership, support, and fiscal oversight for charter schools and Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield-Suisun, Travis, Vacaville, and Vallejo school districts which serve approximately 60,300 students. Solano County Superintendent of Schools, Lisette Estrella-Henderson is elected by voters of Solano County. The Superintendent is a state constitutional officer who serves as the chief executive officer of SCOE and as a liaison between local school districts and the state.