

THE TECS STINGER

Tierra Encantada Charter School's
student newspaper



Graduation 2017!

Welcome to Tierra Encantada's newspaper site! We're happy you have come here to read articles and keep up with what's going on in our school and our community. Enjoy!

We are moving!

Looking forward to a brand new school-year in a beautiful new campus next fall. See you there!

Intensives...

This issue covers many of the Intensive courses offered at Tierra Encantada spring 2017.

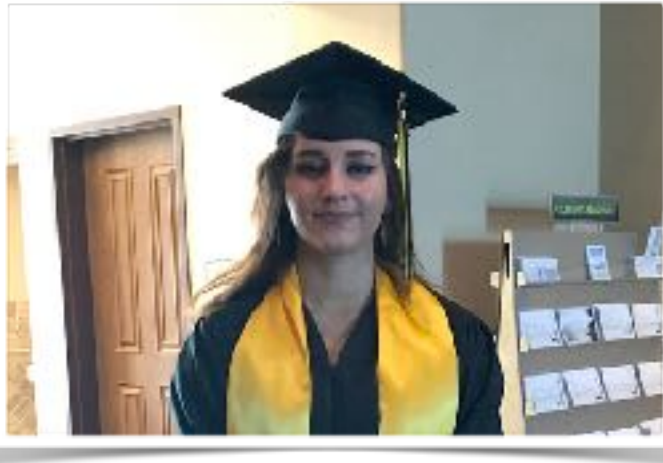
The Last 90's Babies Step Into Their Future

Graduation is a big part of students' lives, no matter where they are in their educational career. It's a time mixed with all different kinds of emotion, excitement for the next chapter in your life, and also fear for what's to come, are just a couple of them. For senior Danilo Maldonado he was feeling a mixture of excitement and fear. Although he has accomplished a lot, he feels he should have been more involved during his last year at Tierra Encantada Charter School. "I could have done more clubs and extracurricular activities, but I didn't, and I regret that," said Danilo. Like his classmates he has attended TECS since seventh grade. This is the first graduating class to have attended TECS for all six years. Many of the seniors can agree that Mr. Marquez was a big influence on their lives and that he made them the people they are now. Mr. Marquez was their crew teacher for many years and he came to the graduation ceremony to support them.

Tierra Encantada's 2017 Graduation ceremony was held in its new building on May 12. The gymnasium in which the ceremony was held was filled with friends and families of the graduates. The graduation consisted of speeches from the Valedictorian and the Salutatorian, as well the memorial of Jennifer Valdez. The principal gave the Valdez family a plaque in her honor, and TECS has an identical plaque that will be hung on the wall in the new campus.

Mayor Javier Gonzales of Santa Fe, who also spoke at the graduation ceremony, works with many schools all over Santa Fe. "I want kids to know that Santa Fe is a great place to grow up, and that when they think about their future, they are excited about being in Santa Fe. It's a Mayor's job to convey that," said Mayor Javier Gonzales. The mayor has attended TECS graduation ceremonies for the years that he has been in office,. "I love any time I can come and congratulate people on their accomplishments," he said. Written by: Luis Mares, Erin Wood, and Anacelia Sargent

We built a website! For more photos & stories visit us online!



The Art of Success

Marianne Lara, Valedictorian for the class of 2017, has attended TECS for 6 years and has formed a special bond with the students and staff. There are three staff members in particular that had a really big impact on her high school years. Her first year here she met a staff member by the name of Ms. Patrick. Marianne was new and a little shy, but eventually, the two grew a strong bond. Ms. Patrick was one of the most influential people in Marianne's years at TECS. Her English teacher, Mr. Marquez, was another major part of her high school years. He had a different way of teaching that made her class become more engaged. Mr. Jones was another teacher who influenced her academic career. He managed to make Science fun by introducing the class with unique experiments. Marianne attributes some of her academic success to these teachers, who have inspired her along the way.

She found TECS to be very welcoming. "I never felt alone at this school, even when I was alone, someone would come along and pick me up," said Marianne. She believes this school is not like any other and she loved the unique aspects of it, such as expeditions. She saw those trips as a time to get away from the textbooks, bond with her classmates and see them in a different light.

Her future plans include attending Santa Fe Community College for a year and then go to Portland State University pursuing a degree in mechanical engineering. Marianne is honored to be Valedictorian, though there is a lot of pressure on her and it can be very stressful. Having a great support system of friends, family, and teachers have helped prepare her for the next step in her life.

Written by: Erin Wood

Caitlin's Road to Graduation

Tierra Encantada Charter School is a small community, but for Salutatorian Caitlin Scott this school was much more. She came from Apostolic Praise Christian Academy, where there were only three other students in her class. Every day Caitlin commutes an hour and a half to Santa Fe from Dixon, NM to attend TECS. TECS was a nice change of pace for her. "There were so many new people and personalities" said Caitlin. Meeting new students was important to her as well as going on the expedition trips. The trips allowed her to get out of the classroom and learn in a more interactive environment. Although fieldwork was nice, she felt more at home in her English class with Mr. Marquez. His class made an impact on her and challenged her academically. "He pushed me and made us cry when we needed it," said Caitlin. "He was by far the best teacher I have ever had."

In the fall, Caitlin will be attending The University of Colorado in Denver to study sports management. Throughout her 10th grade year at TECS, she wanted to be an artist. As the years went on she decided that art wasn't her passion anymore. She has always loved sports and she decided to take a different path with her career. Caitlin is very excited to be at the end of her high school career, as she finishes second in her class. She has been waiting for this moment, and her hard work and dedication has definitely paid off. She continued to keep a good work ethic and stay organized. These had a big role in her academic

success. "I am just ready to be on my own," she said. Her road to graduation was long and hard but she finally made it. **Written by: Erin Wood**



Tell It Like It Is - We created the Tell It Like It Is intensive to give students a voice and strengthen writing, interviewing and reporting skills. We wanted our students to write about issues that affect them and topics they care about within our community. Students wrote articles to create TECS' first student newspaper. They learned about the aspects of journalism by speaking with reporters, web designers, community members and visiting several local journalism hubs.



Jennifer Nevarez is a local mover and shaker who has generously given time to help students at TECS since last year. As the lead educator and director of the Community Learning Network, Nevarez connected us with several of our experts during our intensive. One of these experts is 20 year-old website guru, Alex Marshall of Free Spirit Press. Jennifer and Alex tirelessly worked with the students to get our website up and going, tutoring our editors on WordPress websites. We wouldn't be anywhere without community members, and know these relationships will last well into the future.

Mr. Joshua Sage, a professional photographer, was the first guest to come to Tierra Encantada. His years of experience and education taught students the art of taking photographs and how to make use of them in a newspaper. Mr. Sage has been providing students with feedback on portrait photography and how to make photos interesting to an audience. He gave students tips, such as changing their perspective and how to take candid shots.

Robert Knott, a reporter for the New Mexican, has not been a stranger to our school. Mr. Knott has covered a few of our stories including a memorial piece on Ms. Jennifer Valdez. An involved Santa Fe community member, Mr. Knott took the time to come in and speak to our students about his everyday experiences as a newspaper reporter. Students appreciated his candor and willingness to answer all of their questions.

Our first trip off campus was to the New Mexican newspaper printing press, on the southside of Santa Fe. This gave students a first-hand view of how the newspaper and other local publications are produced and distributed to tens of thousands of New Mexicans. In a world of technology, it was refreshing to see that the newspaper continues to be alive and well.

The class also visited KOB-TV news station in Albuquerque. We were led on a full tour of the reporters' offices, video editing bays, and the live news studio. While we were in the studio, we witnessed a live broadcast by morning anchor Rachel Hackbarth. Meteorologist Cassandra Crimi shared her love of weather and encouraged students to study science and math. Students clearly enjoyed the behind the scenes tour, and especially had fun with the green screen in the studio.

Tell It Like It Is has been a challenge to all involved. From finding interest in a topic and producing a story, to editing their final articles, students and teachers have had some very tedious days. We had a vision for the TECS Stinger, but had to make changes as we underestimated the work it takes to create a newspaper in ten days. The students learned that one edit was not enough, and we, the teachers learned that patience is most definitely a virtue. We've realized that it won't be perfect. Through 9 days of research, interviews, site visits, phone calls, pots of coffee, and varying degrees of writer's block, the final product is something the class should be proud of. Michelle from the New Mexican newspaper was impressed that we were putting this together in such a short time period. "We took 12 weeks with one school and we thought that was stressful," she said. A lesson learned!

Written by: Mrs. Gandara & Mrs. Kirkland



Food is Culture - The Inside Scoop

Four students, Ashley, Mya, Rio, and Alekcey from Ms. Garcia's intensive, Food is Culture, were chosen to make a meal for the rest of their classmates. "We had to choose one dish from any culture. We chose middle eastern culture because, we liked how the plate looked on the website that our teacher gave us, so we wanted to try it," said Mya. They chose a potato salad inspired by Egyptian culture and lemonade with mint from Turkey. The four chefs had 1 hour and 45 minutes to finish preparing their

food and serve it. While their classmates were in charge of judging this food on taste. Rio and Alekcey were cutting the potatoes while Ashley mixed the garlic and other ingredients with it. The chefs almost ran out of time and looked stressed.

Mya served the food and drinks to her classmates. "Can we add a touch of salt?" Asked Vanessa. "It's a fresh salad. I really like the appetizer, how it's fresh. I'm not a big fan of garlic but it's nice," said Ms. Garcia. Comments towards the drink were "It was very sweet," said most of the people. Their classmates and teachers graded them by taste, temperature, creativity, plate presentation, and amount. They sent the four chefs to another classroom as they all discussed what they felt about the plate. The four chefs were graded by numbers: being a mmm/no/bad; being an ok/ a little bit; being a Good; being Yummy/Si/Excellent. Their overall grade was a 3! Good job to the four chefs!

"Our performance was really good but I feel like we could've done better the organization," Mya said. "Using our time more wisely, We could've had all our stuff outside ready to cook, but we didn't so as we were cooking we would be looking for ingredients, and walk around wasting time. We also would've bought enough ingredients if we could change one thing about today." The four chefs had said Students from Mrs. Garcia's intensive class at Tierra Encantada Charter School had a pasta contest on May 4th, 2017. The first place winners were tied between two teams. Ashley and Maya made pasta with veggies, butter, and hamburger meat. Mya said "My favorite part was winning the contest." They both really enjoyed trying all the other pastas that their classmates had made. "Getting the dough to the right consistency was the hardest part of making this dish," Mya said. This pasta recipe would benefit them in the future by being able to cook for themselves using these ingredients. They chose this recipe because they had picked it last year and they loved how it came out, so they gave it another try.

Gilbert and Anahi were the other group who tied, making ravioli with marinara sauce. Gilbert said, "We mostly enjoyed making the ravioli and the marinara sauce. Mixing the sauce was the hardest part because we had to blend it." They were very excited for getting first place and receiving compliments.

Other students from this intensive informed that their favorite part about this contest, was being able to work with their partner, and being able to try new things. They also liked learning how to make pasta from scratch. The teacher explained to us the way the judges were grading: "There was a rubric based on flavor; ingredients; and the pasta had to be from scratch. The main ingredient was vegetables." Other judges also said, "Some pastas were delicious, but some lacked the main ingredients which were vegetables."

Mrs. Garcia's students' loved the pasta contest and had a very good time. The judges enjoyed trying all of the many pastas, such as, Fettuccini with zucchini alfredo, tomato sauce with zucchini, Fettuccini Alfredo, ravioli with marinara sauce, and pasta with veggies, butter and hamburger meat. As we got the scoop on Food is Culture intensive we learned that it takes discipline, skill, and fun to make the perfect dish.

Written by: Jaqueline Coronel, Nataly Mata-Soliz, Mabel Marquez



An Inside Look of History of Sports

Teachers at Tierra Encantada Charter School create intensives of a subject they'd like to teach. Mr. Kurtis Montoya and Mr. Louis Thornton formed History of Sports from their individual passion of sports. The intensive focuses on learning the history of a sport, as well as actually engaging in that focused sport. The Boys and Girls Club was utilized for a lot of the indoor sports, such as: basketball, indoor soccer, volleyball, and kickball. Joshua Martinez, a student in this intensive stated when asked about why he chose History of Sports, "I would like to better my skills in all kinds of sports and I also had fun last year doing this intensive." While they're not out and exercising, the classroom becomes their second field. Research about history of the sports they're going to perform is a big part of the intensive. Each sport has its own history and the students are assigned to analyze the time periods of each sport. Baseball for example, where the students researched the history of the sport and its different time periods. They then got the opportunity to play baseball and watch an actual baseball game at Isotopes Park. "They do a history of a sport then play the actual sport." Mr. Montoya said during an interview with The TECS Stinger newspaper. "The intensive keeps them active and might even help them find a love for a new sport."

Students, ranging from 8th graders to 11th graders, are all trying out new sports and stepping outside their comfort zone. Louis Thornton's view of the intensive, "It furthers their knowledge about sports and helps them better understand it." Thornton is the coach for the TECS wrestling team and has been a part of intensives like this one for many years. Both Mr. Thornton and Mr. Montoya have a strong passion for sports and that passion turned into an intensive where sport fanatics have an opportunity to shine and progress.

Written by: Aubrey Montoya, Dylan Pledger

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Art Rock and Roll

Art rocks! Mr. Zebrowski created a rock and art based intensive surrounding the human being and earth. There are many different ways that he combined art and Geology together to create this class. These are two things that he really loves... why not combine them?!

The students of this intensive have been doing many different types of art, such as sketching their surroundings. They do these sketches daily so that they can improve their drawing skills. The students have been creating art collages, intentional graffiti, rock sculptures and a modern day petroglyph. There are many techniques to creating art. They are using the 7 elements of art, which are: line, shape, form, color, space, texture, and value. "This technique really has no technique at all, it's simply making the art your own and creating a more realistic piece of art," said Mr. Zebrowski.

Mr. Zebrowski's sister, Annie, came and taught the kids about intentional graffiti. The students wrote positive words over and over again on the poster, they layered these words on top of each other. It created a really beautiful end product. Annie has her own small business and she creates clothes where she uses art in the creation of her clothing. Just like Mr. Zebrowski she too loves art. "I love art because of the emotions it creates and the feelings that people get from it," Annie said.

"They can learn a lot by just observing the rocks, the main speaker is the Geology itself," said Mr. Zebrowski. The class has visited many places to observe rocks and art, such as Diablo Canyon, Cross of the Martyrs, and The Santa Fe River.

Mr. Zebrowski was inspired to do this intensive for two reasons. "Geology saved my friend's life and that is something really special to me," he said. Zebrowski was also close to his high school art teacher who was the reason he loved art. Unfortunately, his teacher passed away last year and that played a big role in the creation of this class. The students seemed to really enjoy this intensive. "Art is my passion, art is my life and I want to make it my career when I get out of high school" said Bella LaRouge. "Art is an outlet" said Avalon Hutto. This intensive is a

good way for students to follow their passion and learn more about art in a fun way.
Written by:
Erin Wood,
James Mitchell



Let's Go Ballistic

Mr. Asiain and Mr. Llausas are the leaders of Going Ballistic with Science. "The purpose of this intensive is to build catapults and for the students to be able to use physics and mathematics to predict where the projectile is going to land," said Mr. Asiain. Students are working on building these catapults outside Mr. Asiain's room, on the street, and sidewalks. "We were thinking of something fun and related to Science," Mr. Asiain stated. "We just wanted to build catapults," said Mr. Llausas.

The ammo for the catapults is aluminum ingots that were made during Mr. Asiain's and Mr. Llausas's intensive last year. The catapults are made from wood planks, nails, and short bungee cords.

Every catapult is built differently, so every catapult has its own unique design. They vary in shape and size, but "Only one catapult is taller than a meter," said Mr. Asiain. The students will compete to see whose catapult is most powerful and most accurate. The competition will be on the last day of intensives, May 18, by the outside basketball courts. The seven teams are: Savages; The Floppy Fighters; N/A; The Rejects; Double Shot; The Otaku Titans; and The Smash Kings.

So every catapult will be put to the test, the catapults will be tested on how far they can throw, and how high it can go. We will have to wait and see who has the best catapult.



Written By: Anthony Xia and Jasper Rael



Healthy Lifestyles

The Tierra Encantada Charter School Healthy Lifestyle intensive is teaching students how to be in shape and live a healthy life. The students warm up by jogging 3 laps around our school everyday. Each morning they do workouts like yoga, weightlifting, and exercise along with workout videos.

They also learn about various aspects relating to a healthy lifestyle. For example, they learned about the pros and

cons of vitamins and supplements, how to lift weights properly, and healthy immune systems. Students learn how to eat healthier by maintaining their calories. The teachers also showed the students the proper way to cook healthy meals. For example, students cooked grilled chicken, rice and kale with mushrooms.

Some students find this intensive extremely challenging. Jasmine Romero stated, "Sometimes I do want to give up, but I don't because I feel if I do, I give up on myself."

Ms. Montoya was interested in teaching this intensive because she wanted students to get fit, and be educated about nutrition in the future and learn proper hygiene. She also states that, "Students learn healthy decisions and effective ways to exercise and how to keep themselves healthy," There were several reasons why students chose this class. Some students said they want to get in shape, while others said they joined to learn how to lift weights properly. Renato Ortiz, said "I would like to focus more around this activity."

This intensive was intriguing to students because they enjoyed learning how to stay healthy, how to stay active, and how to make healthy decisions.

Written by: Bryan Marquez and Briana Gonzales

The Future of Tomorrow, The Future of Business

In the Entrepreneurship intensive, the students have been learning about how to start a business. Mrs. Annette Painter is one of the teachers teaching this intensive. She wanted to teach this intensive because she comes from a family of Entrepreneurs.

As part of this intensive, students find locations to establish their businesses. They will also be working on a budget to manage their spending. Students are putting together all the pieces to making a successful business. With everything they have been learning, they are getting the hang of managing their own businesses.

On Tuesday, May 9th, the Entrepreneurship class worked on their logo, to represent their original business. Ms. Jaramillo, who is another leading teacher, stated "Although it's been a slow start, the students are starting to get the main points of Entrepreneurship and starting a business." The students will be making their own shirts with their business logos on them. The students have also been going on field work to different businesses to talk to the owners and ask questions about their businesses. This process has allowed students to progress in the art of Entrepreneurship

Oscar Vargas a student in this intensive said, "This intensive might help me understand more about how to run my own business and maybe take over my mothers one day." Oscar is excited about making his own shirts with their company logo but he is also sad that this will be his last year here as a student.

Josselyn Tarango, another student in this intensive said "I want to take over my mom's business, and keep it thriving" she stated. She is excited for the rest of the intensive, and is ready for the challenges coming. Written by Amador Gonzales, Edgar Galindo, Haily Arias



Robotics in Action

The Robotics intensive allows students interested in engineering to pursue their skills in mathematics and put them to the test. Students at Tierra Encantada built multiple prosthetic arms to compete against each other. Requirements for these prosthetic arms were to pick up and throw a sand bag without malfunction. "Each team is different, everyone has an 80 dollar budget and different materials," Ms. Martinez stated. Every group had different materials to build their arm. One group used a 3D printer, Nicholas said "I'm 75% sure the 3D printer technique will work." Other groups used pieces of cardboard, string, a red board, bread board and electric tape. Students worked on coding which was used to give their prosthetic arms commands. Students did not have much experience in building prosthetics arms but coding made it easier for them to become familiar with the process. Many changed their techniques, some added knobs and others glued their pieces together.

These teams were determined to finish for their competition by May 17th. Since they had missed the MESA a competition which is a Math and Science event and they decided to compete against each other.

"This intensive can open up a career for others, if they are interested in taking coding and electronics in their future," Alejandra said. Many of the students found this to be a beneficial intensive for their future. They hope to succeed in the competition and some look forward in building this new found skill in the future. **Written by:**

Justin Valdez, Nahomy Trejo

Italian Culture

A trip into Italian Culture! In the past two weeks students have been gaining knowledge on Italian culture and language. The purpose of the intensive is to dig deeper into the Italian culture and expand their knowledge on Italian life styles. In order to do that, students prepared different foods such as Paninis and Bruschetta, and by practicing their Italian language skills. Mr. Arruga stated, "We played an Italian sport called Bocce. Bocce is a sport that involves two teams, with two players in each team. Each team has four Bocce balls plus an additional ball named Palentino. The objective is to hit the Palentino. The team that is closest to hitting the ball 11 times wins." Mr. Mudge explained why this intensive was created. " Mr. Arruga and I have something relatable to Italy. I've lived in Italy and Mr. Arruga's wife is from Italy. We want to work with this intensive in the future and improve it to teach different aspects of art, culture, and their way of living. We want the youth to appreciate the Italian country."



Jacqueline Farrel reflected on what the intensive has done so far, "We went to an Italian restaurant called Pranzo Italian Grill and interviewed the manager of the restaurant. We wanted to know how to build a successful restaurant." Students in the intensive practiced their Italian language, by conducting a role play in a restaurant scene. The role play was about three of the students, two of them were clients and one of them was a waiter. They practiced the basic Italian restaurant lingo. TECS is a bilingual school and only offers Spanish during the school year. This intensive offers students an opportunity to learn yet another foreign language.

Written by: Barbara Marquez, Luis Mares

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Santa Fe Exploration & Its History

Have you ever wanted to explore Santa Fe? Well, that's exactly what the Santa Fe Exploration intensive did. This group has been out and about exploring many



different places in Santa Fe, and surrounding areas, to learn about the history of our city. Santa Fe exploration is a perfect excuse to be outdoors. Ms. De Kruffy and Mrs. Gallacher created this intensive to show their students everything there is to explore in and around of Santa Fe. Ms. De Kruffy said that most people would rather be inside than go outdoors to explore all the different places in their community. The goal of Santa Fe Exploration is to take their students on an adventure. The students are creating a presentation about what they have learned. Many students wanted to join this intensive to explore new places that they have never seen before. Alanah O'Brien said " I want to be a tourist in my own town." The students of this intensive take photographs, and draw pictures of the places they have visited. Everyday these students explore something different and new.

Students visited many local museums and galleries. One was the Georgia O'keeffe museum. She was a famous local artist that lived in Abiquiu, and reached worldwide fame. Ms. De Kruffy said that she was surprised that many of her students had not known about Georgia O'Keeffe, until they they watched a film about her at Violet Crown. On May 9th, Santa Fe Exploration went to the Cross of the Martyrs. The Cross of the Martyrs is a landmark with a beautiful view of downtown Santa Fe. This intensive also visited The Palace of the Governors, Las Golondrinas, Prairie Dog Glass Blowing company, and one of Santa Fe's newest sites, Meow Wolf.

This is a great intensive to learn about the outdoors and explore the history of Santa Fe. Many of the students enjoyed themselves during their time in this intensive and have found a new way to enjoy their hometown.

Written by: Marisol Munoz, Aaron Vigil