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News Release

For Release
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Thursday, May 14 at 6 p.m.

Sac City Unified middle and high school students 'open' documentary series at Crest Theater

Middle and high school students from 14 Sacramento City Unified campuses will showcase their short films of community leaders and issues in their community on Thursday, May 14 at 6 p.m. at the Crest Theater, 1013 K St. The premiere is free to the public.

Participating high schools include American Legion, C.K. McClatchy, Genesis, George Washington Carver, Hiram Johnson, and John F. Kennedy; participating middle schools include Albert Einstein, California, Fern Bacon, John Still, Kit Carson, Rosa Parks, Sam Brannan, and Will C Wood. Screening of the video series is part of the California Voices initiative and is supported by Sac City, Sacramento Region Community Foundation, Sacramento Chinese Community Service Center, The City of Sacramento, and Galt Joint Union High School District.

Students have produced mini-documentaries over the school year that chronicle the lives of "unsung heroes" in their communities—people who have made significant contributions to community, culture or country. The teens also developed films and public service announcements (PSAs) about issues that affect them, including the high school drop out rate, neighborhood safety, and health and wellness.

California Voices is designed to mobilize young people to have a greater share of voice in the digital era, while preserving the legacy of elders who have made significant contributions to culture, community, and country. Featured stories include:

- Bong Vong Nguyen was born and raised in Saigon, South Vietnam and served in the South Vietnamese Army. Mr. Nguyen shares his story of being wounded and held captive in the jungle in a North Vietnamese communist re-education camp.
- Manny Hernandez's parents emigrated from Mexico when he was very young so they could give their children an opportunity to receive a better education. After witnessing the deplorable conditions of his own children's schools, Manny knew it was time to dedicate his life to education and service.
- Youth Voice documentaries exploring bullying, tobacco use, neighborhood safety, and the high school dropout rate through the creative lens of our students.

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