



CONSTRUCTION CAREERS ACADEMY *news*

December 6, 2017

9411 Military Drive West / San Antonio, TX 78251 / 210-397-4294 / www.nisd.net/cca

The CCA Mission

The mission of Construction Careers Academy (CCA) is to provide an advanced and rigorous curriculum with a focus on construction technology, construction management, architectural design, applied engineering and real-world experience that will prepare students for studies in higher education and/or a career in a construction-related industry.

Important Dates

- ✓ Dec 13 – Late Start
- ✓ Dec 21-Jan 2 – Winter Break
- ✓ Jan 8 – Principal’s Cabinet Meeting – 4:15
- ✓ Jan 8 – CCA Parent Partnership Meeting – 6:45
- ✓ Jan 10 – Late Start
- ✓ Jan 15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Student/Teacher Holiday
- ✓ Jan 16 – Magnet Fair, NISD Sports Gym at Farris – 6:30
- ✓ Jan 19 – End of Semester
- ✓ Jan 31 – Late Start
- ✓ Jan 31 – SkillsUSA Competition
- ✓ Jan 31 – CCA Open House for 8th Grade New Recruits and Parents
- ✓ Feb 3 – SkillsUSA Awards
- ✓ Feb 5 – Principal’s Cabinet Meeting – 4:15
- ✓ Feb 5 – CCA Parent Partnership Meeting – 6:45
- ✓ Feb 9 – CCA Applications for Incoming Freshmen due to Counselors
- ✓ Feb 19 - Student Holiday/Staff Development
- ✓ Feb 28 – Late Start
- ✓ Mar 2 – End of 4th Six Weeks
- ✓ Mar 5 – Principal’s Cabinet Meeting – 4:15
- ✓ Mar 5 – CCA Parent Partnership Meeting – 6:45
- ✓ Mar 7 – Business Advisory Group - 2:30
- ✓ Mar 12-16 – Spring Break

PRINCIPAL’S CORNER

It is hard to believe we have completed our 12th week of school. It seems to be moving at “Lightning McQueen” speed. I find myself inspired and in awe of our students, staff, and parents. One of the great joys in my career as an educator is spending time with our students—to make a difference in their lives. I am convinced more than ever we have the best students in Northside. They are of great character, hard workers, respectful, and eager to meet the challenges they will face as an Academy student. Parents you should also know that we have a phenomenal staff at the Academy. They truly care about the success of your student. I am absolutely amazed to what extent they will go to ensure your student gets a “top flight” education. It would take more space than this article will allow to highlight what they have done to ensure your student gets the best education in Northside. I would encourage you to connect with your student’s instructor. It will not take long before you come to the same conclusion. I have also had the opportunity to spend time with a number of CCA parents. Here is what I have learned. We have some of the best parents in the district. I appreciate your willingness to get involved—to be part of the educational process. Parents, please know that my door is always open. You and your student are extremely important to me. I want the students and parents of CCA to have the best experience possible. Parents, you should also know that I am a strong believer in servant leadership. It is a bedrock philosophy of who I am. So, if there is anything I can do to help please do not hesitate to contact me. Finally, I would encourage you to peruse the “Academy News.” It is filled with important information. I would also encourage you to check out the CCA website at www.nisd.net/cca, follow us on Facebook and Twitter. You will find up to date news and information. REMEMBER, TOGETHER WE WILL SUCCEED!!

CCA RECEIVES \$100,000 GRANT FROM IMPACT SAN ANTONIO



CCA was one of four winners out of eight finalists from an initial pool of 109 applicants to receive a \$100,000 grant. The money will go to further our students’ impact on the industry as skilled craftsmen and women. Some of the grant money will be used to build an ImpactSA Tiny Home that will be used for community outreach. The Academy will continue to make an impact on the community and support other districts who reach out to the campus as a model program in promoting training and the trades in a high school setting. Impact San Antonio empowers women to make the most of their charitable donations to impact the Greater San Antonio community and the nonprofits that serve it. The nonprofit was founded by Kelly Hutchinson in 2004 as a women’s giving circle. Since the first grant was awarded in 2005, the organization has given \$2,212,100 to San Antonio area non-profits.

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CCA STUDENT COMPETES IN THE SKILLSUSA NATIONAL COMPETITION

The National SkillsUSA 2017 competition was held in Louisville Kentucky over the summer. One of our top students won the SkillsUSA state competition and represented CCA in the national competition. He competed against all 50 states in electrical construction wiring. It was a great experience, and we had a great sense of pride representing the state of Texas. The Academy is ramping up to send more students to state and nationals this year.



FIELD TRIP TO TEXAS A&M



Each year in the fall, CCA takes Juniors and Seniors to tour the campus at Texas A&M in College Station. Currently TAMU has several students attending the campus in the Engineering and Construction Science program. Students toured the campus, visited the BIM room and sat in on a class in one of the lecture halls.

TINY HOUSE ON WHEELS FEATURED AT THE SAN ANTONIO HOME AND GARDEN SHOW



Construction Careers Academy was again invited to display a home at the San Antonio Home and Garden show this year. The student built Solar Tiny House is an off-the-grid home boasting of solar panels with battery storage and composting toilet. The home is under contract. One of the 2018 homes will become our new feature home to be showcased at events. The seniors are

Working hard to finish their homes in time for this year's Tiny Home Showcase. The Tiny Home Showcase is on May 19, 2018.

STUDENTS BUILD RAMP TO HELP LOCAL CITIZEN



Some of CCA's most dedicated students spent their weekend helping in the community. They built a ramp as part of the Texas Ramp Project. Each year CCA takes part in the project to help a local citizen who has mobility restraints.



Formen Of The Month

September

Andrew Rojas
Grace Zamarron
Alejandro Villanueva
Nathaniel Kevresian

October

Taylor Almanza
Taylor Shepard
James Sanchez
Miguel Zamora

November

Andrew Deleon
Reede Ayers
Michelle Navarro
Milen Patel

DID YOU KNOW...

Photovoltaic (Solar) Installers are expected to have a 105% job growth rate between 2016 and 2026 adding 12,000 jobs. (BLS, 2017)

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CCA BECOMES APPROVED DOL APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Construction Careers Academy is now recognized as an approved US Department of Labor full apprenticeship training program. Academy students will now receive instructional hours, for the training received at the Academy, toward their apprenticeship program. The official signing was at this year's Department of Labor Apprenticeship USA conference held in San Antonio on September 28th, 2017. The signing of the agreement serves as a milestone in the history of CCA, Northside Independent School District, the State of Texas and the US Department of Labor. It is a major step toward improving workforce development and filling shortages in the industry. It, without question, showcases the very best of what public education has to offer. Congratulations to the CCA team!!



STUDENTS VISIT CANYON LAKE DAM



Junior and Senior Engineering students visited Canyon Lake Dam. The Dam is run by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. It is an Embankment Dam that was constructed for flood control on the Guadalupe River in 1964. Students in the Engineering Strand have completed dam construction methodology in their curriculum and

had the opportunity to see a large scale dam in person. Students were given dimensions of this dam and had to calculate volume parameters needed for materials to finish this project. Students were also shown the spillways on the dam that are used for flood waters if the water gets too high. The Army Corps of Engineers have stated this is the largest dam located near San Antonio. It was also interesting to note from the visit that only one lake in Texas is natural, Caddo Lake in East Texas, all other lakes in Texas are man-made.

UIW WELCOMES ARCHITECTS

Students from our Architecture Strand who are interested in Interior Design had the opportunity to visit The University of the Incarnate Word School of Interior Design. Dr. Allison the Interior Design Coordinator explained the importance of understanding how a building is designed and constructed and how it relates to being a professional designer. UIW's campus student leaders toured our CCA students around the campus to get a good look at student life in action at the university.



Instructor Fun Facts!

Mr. Paul (Construction Management) was a 2 time golden gloves champion in Iowa.

Mr. Esquivel (Principles of Construction) Graduated Salutatorian from Canutillo High School in El Paso - Class of 2000.

Ms. Gerlich (Geometry in Construction) won 1st place in the North East ISD All Star Mathematics Challenge when she was a geometry student many years ago.

Mr. Hadden (Plumbing) loves to travel, and to roller skate! In fact, he takes his skates when he travels – just in case. He has also been spotted on the ice – ice skating at Rockefeller Plaza.

For three years, **Mr. Gonzalez** (Architecture) drove a GPS mapping car, taking street view pictures all over the country.

Mr. Orta (Electrical) was an all-state pitcher at South San High School, back in the day.

As Captain of his Cricket team, **Mr. Dixon** (Carpentry) lead his team to Nationals two times for Mico University in Jamaica.

Prior to teaching, **Mr. Gallets** (Engineering) was an engineer at M&M Mars Candy Manufacturer.

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ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS VISIT LAKE FLATO



Architecture students from all grades were given a presentation of projects and tour of the prestigious Lake Flato Architecture firm. They watched architects working on the new Pearl expansion and saw some great company culture. The firm allows employee pets on site and they have a

scheduled break-time for a workout in their daily routine. Students were inspired to return to campus and work on their own projects. Afterwards they went to the Pearl to check out some of the architectural detail.

STUDENTS VOLUNTEER WITH HABITAT



Twenty five students and parents worked with Habitat for Humanity over the Thanksgiving break. They also had the privilege of attending the house dedication ceremony as they helped to finish the neighborhood.

CCA GIRLS HOST GIRLSCOUT TROOP 300



Girls Scout Troop 300 enjoyed an afternoon troop meeting at CCA. Our Girls showed the young ladies how to measure, cut and fit PVC together. In the electrical lab, the girls wired in a doorbell and tested their work! The Troop also got a tour of the shops, campus and our Tiny Homes.

PRINCIPAL'S CABINET TAKES ON LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE



CCA Principal's Cabinet takes on leadership challenge. The CCA Principal's Cabinet serves as the student advisory-leadership team. Students visited Newcombe's Ranch to participate in this year's team



building/leadership activity. Students worked to master the team building and high ropes course. Students were faced with a number of challenging activities that prove to test their ability to work together as a team and challenged their skills as a campus leader.

Staff Spotlight



Greetings CCA Community! My name is **Melissa Clarke**, and I am the newest counselor to join the Academy. I was born and raised in San Antonio, graduating from MacArthur High School, and acquiring my Bachelor and Master degrees from The University of Texas at San Antonio. My husband is also a NISD high school counselor, and we have two very loving and energetic boys that have given me the most rewarding role of my life, Mom.

This is my 20th year in Northside ISD. I'm proud to say that I taught middle school students for 7 years, and then had the opportunity to start my counseling career at the elementary and middle school levels. I spent the last 7 years as a Head Counselor and helped to open one of NISD's newest middle school campuses.

As much as I enjoyed the energy of middle school students, when the opportunity to join the CCA staff became an option, I could not pass it up! It is my first time working with high school students, and so far I LOVE IT! The students here at CCA are so focused and dedicated to their passion, that I find myself inspired to be the best professional counselor I can be for them. It is an honor to guide, counsel, and support the students I get to work with on a daily basis and to build the relationship needed to propel them onto the next phase of their lives.

It may sound funny, but when it is time for me to come to work, I find myself in a constant state of gratitude because I get to work at such an incredible campus, alongside some of NISD's best teachers and administrators! The positive campus culture created by Mr. Edge is genuinely infectious, and one can't help but be proud to contribute to the opportunity and support the students need to succeed! CCA is an amazing place to be, where unbelievable things are happening. I am extremely thankful to be a part of the CCA Family!

SENIOR GIRLS GO TO THE FIELD

Our senior girls had the opportunity to see other women working in the field of construction. Becky is the senior project manager at Zachry Corporation and is in charge of the new Embassy Hotel. Megan is the construction manager for Chesmar Homes. On another trip, our girls were invited to Sea World where two more amazing women, Diana and Mary are the project managers overseeing the construction of their latest water ride.



STUDENTS TRAIN FOR SKILLSUSA



CCA's best are coming out in big numbers to get practice for this year's SkillsUSA competition. This year will be our biggest for the competition. Some of the Events that our students will compete in are: Architectural



Drafting, Construction Materials Identification, Tool Identification, Team Works, Individual Carpentry, Electrical Construction Wiring, Job Wiring, Job Interviewing, Surveying, Masonry, Plumbing, Quiz Bowl and Sheet Metal.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Our amazing parents continue to support our program and our students by coming to our events with our Tiny Home. Here we took the Solar II to the Annual AGC barbeque cook off at the Helotes Fairgrounds. Other events we have done this year include the Texas Rainwater revival in Blanco and Career Day at Kay Franklin Elementary. We appreciate our parents and would not be the program we are without them!



Student Testimonial

"At first I did not think it would be possible to be successful as a girl in a school whose focus is in construction and is made up of a majority of guys. But, now, as I am in my third year I have learned to speak up and stand my ground against those who believe guys are better than girls. This academy, this place, it has become my home. The school has a small class and you are assigned to have one teacher for the strand you choose to be a part of. You get to grow as a person and establish close relationships with whichever teacher you get, The entire staff here is helpful and willing to listen to anything you have to say. CCA has shown me that if you put in enough effort, that you will reap any and all benefits it has to offer (no matter how cliché that sounds). Construction Careers Academy is the best and most unique high school you could ever attend."

Melissa Teran,
Engineering, Class of 2018

"Each of us is carving a stone, erecting a column, or cutting a piece of stained glass in the construction of something much bigger than ourselves."

Adrienne Clarkson