



2008 CCC PROGRAM UPDATE ~

# Highlights of 2008



## Central California Consortium



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**...And Much More!**

Edited by Lily M. Nieves

“Now that 2008 has ended, it is nice to look back and reflect on the the success of the CCC and our entire California Consortium. We are thankful for the many awards we have received and the visibility it has given us. One of our greatest accomplishments this year has been each and every one of the 103 diverse student interns that we hired this past summer; a record breaking number for us. We are also proud of our recent expansion to the South Lake Tahoe area. I want to thank the Forest Service on a national, regional, and local level for their continued support. We will continue our strong partnership with underserved communities. We look forward to buiding on our success in 2009.”

- James Oftedal  
CCC Director

### Awards Bring Program National Visibility

- By Lily M. Nieves

The Central California Consortium (CCC) has had another successful year. It's accomplishments for 2008 include placing a record breaking 103 diverse interns and expanding our program to the South Lake Tahoe area. It's efforts have not gone unnoticed, as this past year, the CCC received local, regional, and national awards. CCC Director, James Oftedal, was honored to receive the Union Bank of California and Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) Local Hispanic Hero of the Year Award for Excellence in Education. His profile was featured during Hispanic Heritage Month on Channel 18; a local PBS television station. He also was awarded the regional Gifford Pinchot Award for Excellence in Environmental Education at the National Association for Interpretation (NAI) Conference in Portland, Oregon.

As a result of the CCC's success, Oftedal was invited to speak on how to help diversify organizations at the North American Environmental Education Conference (NAEEC) in Witchita, Kansas. It was during this conference that Oftedal had the opporunity to meet with Forest Service Chief, Abigail Kimbell. Oftedal states, “The Chief was excited to learn more about the CCC and its accomplishments.”

Oftedal states,

*“It's my honor to share the misssion of the California Consortium on a national level. These awards are valuable because they help us create more partnerships and they bring us to the table. As a result, we are helping others connect diverse youth to the land, helping others diversify through hiring talented youth, and encouraging diverse communities to enjoy and care for our public lands.”*

Pictures: (left top) Oftedal and FS Chief, Abigail Kimbell at the NAEEC. (left bottom) James Oftedal and other recipients of the 2008 Gifford Pinchot Award at the NAI Conference. (right top) James Oftedal and Deputy Director, Jim Pena, at the Local Hero of the Year Ceremony. (right bottom) Oftedal encourages Earth Force students at the NAI in Portland.



## Wow...Over 100 Interns Placed in 2008!

- By Julissa Gonzalez

The CCC had a record breaking year by placing 103 students into paid internships throughout California and Oregon. Students completed internships in civil engineering, wildlife biology, archaeology, firefighting, and business to name a few. This year, the CCC enhanced student workshops by including career presentations from Forest Service professionals.

The CCC formally celebrated the completion of 103 interns at the 12th Annual Intern Award Ceremony on August 7, 2008. Students presented their summer internship experiences to an audience of Forest Service employees, community partners, family and friends. Tina Terrell, Sequoia National Forest Supervisor, served as the keynote speaker, sharing her inspirational story and tips for success. One student stated, *"I love this program. I had a wonderful boss and my team was always fun to be around. I wouldn't have wanted to spend my summer any other way."*

CCC Director, James Oftedal, states, *"We recruit the best students, but we could not place them without all of the supervisors who continue to utilize our program. We want to thank all our Forest Service partners for their continuous support."*

For details on how to apply for a CCC internship, please go to:  
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/ccc/internship/>

## MEERA Evaluation Proves Positive

- By Lily M. Nieves

As always, the CCC seeks to improve its Employment Program by gathering student feedback. However, this year the CCC took their evaluation to a higher level. The CCC was chosen by MEERA (My Environmental Education Resource Assistant) as one of five Forest Service environmental education programs in the nation to help improve the MEERA online evaluation resource for programs world wide. As part of this seven month long focus group, the CCC created and administered a student questionnaire, which was later analyzed and reported. Throughout every step of the process, CCC staff provided MEERA with detailed feedback through surveys and conference calls.

After analyzing the CCC's student data, it was found that as a result of their internship (of the students who completed the questionnaire), students:

- 98% Will recommend a CCC internship to others
- 98% Benefited positively
- 89% Feel their community benefits from their work experience and environmental education
- 76% Increased their knowledge of FS careers
- 72% Plan to visit public lands
- 61% Gained a Mentor

Overall, the CCC received positive feedback and suggestions on how to improve the program. After carefully reviewing the data, the CCC has developed a plan to help improve the program. For more information on this evaluation, please contact the CCC.



Pictures: **(top right)** Hume Lake Crew: Vicky Perez, Reedley High student; Monica Segura, Reedley College student/ Crew Assistant; Sergio Lemus; CSU Fresno Graduate/ Crew Leader; Reyes Partida, Reedley High student; Rogelio Ramos, Reedley High student; and Maria Ceja, Reedley High student. **(middle right)** Air Quality Crew: Arlinda Franco, UC Davis Student; Ricardo Cisneros, SNF Air Quality Specialist; Noemi Sanchez, CSU Fresno student; and Johnny Moua, Willows International student. **(bottom right)** CCC student interns pose after their presentations at the Intern Awards Ceremony.

# Generation Green EXPANDS TO SOUTH LAKE TAHOE



## Forest Service and Community Embrace 1st Ever Generation Green Summer Crew

- By Lily Nieves

This was no ordinary summer for seven students from South Tahoe High School who served as the first ever South Lake Tahoe Generation Green summer crew. The project was spearheaded by Joy Barney, Conservation Education Specialist, who linked a partnership with the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) Recreation Department and the Central California Consortium (CCC). The students started with a weeklong Lake Tahoe Community College Wilderness Expedition course (earned .5 college unit) organized in partnership with the Lake Tahoe Rim Trail Association. With funding assistance from the El Dorado County Workforce Investment Act (WIA), the students became Forest Service employees for six weeks completing stewardship projects on public lands, building leadership skills, and learning about natural resource careers. The students' experience culminated with an Awards Ceremony, where they presented on their work experience and thanked all partners. The audience included the student's families, agency employees, and community partners. South Tahoe High School Principal, Ivone Larson, and LTBMU Forest Supervisor, Terri Marceron, served as speakers. Terri stated, "Our students embraced their roles as stewards, demonstrated interest and passion in the natural resources managed by the Forest Service, and learned that they did make a difference in the projects they worked on and accomplished through the program. I look forward to having more Generation Green participants next year."

The crew is pictured in the top left picture: (top row, left to right) Tina Klos, Bianca Regalado, Hillary Santana (Crew Leader Assistant), Rafael Yanez, (bottom row, left to right) Cesar Ortega, Adrian Escobedo (Crew Leader) Sergio Rodriguez, and Jose Gomez.

## Generation Green Club Expands to South Tahoe High School

- By Lily Nieves

The Generation Green (GG) Club expanded to South Tahoe High School through a partnership with the Central California Consortium (CCC), Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) Recreation Department, and South Tahoe High School. It is now the third GG high school club, joining Reedley and Orange Cove High School. Additional community partners include: Lake Tahoe Youth Taskforce and the Lake Tahoe Unified Superintendent. James Oftedal, CCC Director, stated, "It was clear to us from the beginning that the South Lake Tahoe community was 100% supportive of this expansion. These students are surrounded by the forest and they'll learn to take ownership of the land and care for it. We want them to gain leadership skills, learn how to conserve and preserve, complete high school, and go on to higher education."

Adrian Escobedo, South Tahoe High School Community Liaison, also serves as the GG Club Advisor. He states, "We're excited to be a part of Generation Green! Our club has been busy working on school and community projects. Joy Barney, LTBMU Conservation Education Program Specialist, states, "It's great to see the students caring for the environment, while building leadership skills."

Pictures: (top right) Jose Gomez helps local Boys and Girls Club plant Daffodil bulbs at Bijou Elementary. (bottom right) GG students pose during their school Hispanic Heritage celebration, a 3 day event coordinated by their GG club.



# Generation Green

High School Environmental Education & Leadership Program



## High School Club Officers



### Reedley High School

President: Carlos Ramirez  
Vice-President: Bernardo Ochoa  
Activity Coordinator: Daniel Lemus  
Treasurer: Jose Morales  
Secretary: Maria Rivera  
Historian: Margarita Diaz  
Reporter: Marin Magaña



### Orange Cove High School

President: Maria S. Ceja  
Vice-President: Francisco Rodriguez  
Activity Coordinator: Everardo Valencia  
Treasurer: Judith Salazar  
Historian: Martha Solorzano  
Reporter: Nadia Andrade



### South Tahoe High School

President: Bianca Regalado  
Vice-President: Jose Gomez  
Secretary: Sandra Zepeda  
Treasurer: Alma Yanez  
Commissioner: Tomito Gutierrez  
Commissioner: Stephanie Campuzano  
Commissioner: Stephany Gomez  
Historian: Araceli Ramos  
Historian: Sandra Jaimes  
ASB Representative: Thalia Lomeli

## Education



### Foresters Inspire Youth at National Conference

- By Julissa Gonzalez

From the communities of Orange Cove, Reedley, and South Lake Tahoe, students left their familiar surroundings to attend the Society of American Foresters (SAF) Convention in Reno, Nevada. Over 50 students from four different high schools in California and Nevada attended the first ever SAF High School Symposium on Friday, November 7th, 2008. The students spent the day learning about careers in forestry and natural resources. They also networked with forestry and natural resource professionals and college students and were introduced to colleges and universities with natural resource majors.

Twelve students from Orange Cove and Reedley High School Generation Green (GG) Club and the ROP Wildland Fire program attended the event. They were accompanied by chaperones: Juana Rosas, CCC Rural Coordinator; Julissa Gonzalez, CCC Job Placement Coordinator; Jose Zavala, CCC Environmental Educator; Mike Pasillas, Sequoia National Forest Assistant District Fuels Specialist; and Huan Mercado, Humboldt State student. These students met 23 members of our newly established South Tahoe High School GG Club, who were led by their advisor Adrian Escobedo. They all participated in an icebreaker and exchanged ideas related to the GG club. On the way home, the students stopped to enjoy the breathtaking scenery of Lake Tahoe (pictured at left). Orange Cove GG student, Saul Torres, stated, "It was exciting to attend the first ever SAF High School Symposium at a national conference. We were inspired by natural resource leaders. We also met South Tahoe High School GG students and found we had similar goals."

A special thank you goes to: Sequoia National Forest Supervisor, Tina Terrell, for coordinating the symposium; Kent Kenny and his Reedley College Forestry program staff for providing the funds for this trip; and Orange Cove and Reedley High School for their continued support of Generation Green and the Central California Consortium.

## Generation Green Inspires Biodiversity Council

- By Juana Rosas

The California Biodiversity Council (CBC) meeting took place October 8-9, 2008 in Oakland, CA focusing on the "Nature Deficit Disorder." This is a very important issue, as studies show that children are disconnected with nature now more than at any other time in history.

The Central California Consortium (CCC) was highlighted as one of two environmental education programs from California connecting diverse youth to the outdoors. CCC Director, James Oftedal, and CCC Rural Coordinator, Juana Rosas shared the program's best practices and successes with the council members. Their presentation included an overview of the CCC's elementary school GG program and high school GG program. Five GG students from Orange Cove and Reedley High School (four pictured above) really impressed the council as they shared how the CCC and the GG club have changed their lives. The students included Nadia Andrade, Maria Ceja, Carlos Ramirez, Walter Roldan, and Angel Rodriguez. They presented their opinions and ideas on how to solve the nature deficit disorder. In a symbolic act the council members made space for six new council members. Oftedal stated, *"The students were very poised and articulate as they actively participated in the group conversations. They were not afraid to share their ideas and concerns. I am so proud of them for stepping up to the challenge."*



A consensus among the council and the attendees that in order to solve the "Nature Deficit Disorder" they need to get youth involved in the discussion and decision making. As a result of the student's participation, the council decided to add a student representative to the council. In the words of Nadia Andrade, GG student, *"Before coming to the Bio-diversity meeting I had the impression that adults just made decisions for us. I was very happy to see that the CBC actually cared about what we had to say and that they really listened to our ideas and took them seriously."*



## Generation Green Impacts International Conference

- By Juana Rosas

In a once in a life time opportunity, four Generation Green (GG) students from the community of Orange Cove were selected to represent the central valley in the first ever North American Youth Leadership Project held on January 12-15, 2008 in San Francisco, CA. These students included Maria Rosas, Saul Torres, Angel Rodriguez, and Francisco Rodriguez. Also, thirty six teens from Northern and Southern California, British Columbia, Canada, and Mexico attended. They all gathered in San Francisco to brainstorm solutions for climate change and sustainability. The focus of the conference was to engage youth in research planning and policymaking for sustainable communities.

During the conference, the students were divided into sessions with more than forty experts in fields such as urban ecology, electricity and transportation. The four GG Students were able to learn and discuss the issues affecting their community and the effects of climate change. During these four days, the students became experts on subjects including: saving electricity, recycling, green buildings and food systems.

The conference culminated with a formal presentation to several world leaders including a former treasurer of the United States, Guadalupe Marin. Once the students were back at home, they felt very proud of what they accomplished. They conducted presentations to their school staff, school board, and city council to share what they had experienced and learned. Angel Rodriguez, GG student participant says, *"I feel very fortunate to have participated in this conference. I learned that youth like me, from around the world, can make a difference in helping care for our earth. We would like to thank the Central California Consortium for this opportunity to represent the Central Valley, our state, and our country in this conference."*

# Generation Green Goes to RAP Camp

- By Saul Fernandez

RAP Camp...no, there's no rapping a song involved. It stands for Resource and People Camp, an awesome outdoor adventure; a long time Central California Consortium (CCC ) partner. It was held June 15-21, 2008 at the Winema National Forest in Oregon. Every year over 50 high school students participate in this seven day, six night camp. The CCC took six Generation Green (GG) students (pictured at right). Students experienced the outdoors and learned about history, environment, animals, and Forest Service careers such as recreation, firefighting, archeology, and more. They also had time to canoe in the lake, fish, swim, and make s'mores under the stars by a campfire. The students earned high school life science credit.



Students were able to hike on the Pacific Crest Trail, a trail that runs from Canada, through California and all the way down to Mexico. They visited the amazing Crater Lake National Park, which was created when Mount Mazama collapsed after a large eruption. These courageous students were truly able to expand their horizons, as most had never even left their hometown. They were accompanied by chaperones Juana Rosas (GG Advisor), Jose Zavala (CCC Environmental Educator), Saul Fernandez (CCC Asst. Human Resource Officer), and Blanca Rosas (volunteer). As a result of their participation, the students became more independent and learned about various natural resource careers. Friendships were made and contact information was exchanged. One thing is for sure, the students will never forget RAP Camp 2008.



Pictures - **Top right corner:** Group picture (top row, left to right): Blanca Rosas (Counselor), Marisol Rosas (student), Francisco Rodriguez (student), Fortunato Luviano (student), Victor Valdivia (student), (bottom row) Saul Fernandez (Counselor), Juana Rosas (Counselor), Francisco Rodriguez (student), Maria Rosas (student), Jose Zavala (Counselor). Bottom right corner: Students enjoy canoeing for the first time in their lives .

## Students Go Wild at WildLink

- Juana Rosas

When you think about camping you might think about relaxing around the campfire and eating s'mores. Well Generation Green (GG) students went well beyond that type of traditional camping experience, as they went on a week long WildLink wilderness expedition. Seven Orange Cove High School students participated along with the CCC's Rural Coordinator and GG Club Advisor, Juana Rosas, and Wildlink Coordinator, David Kuhn.

The adventure began along the historic Old Coulterville Road, where each student had an opportunity to lead the group with the help of topographic maps and compasses. Once arriving at our destination, Merced Grove, the students enjoyed playing in the snow and taking in the beautiful views of the giant sequoias. The students were fortunate to visit the old Merced Grove ranger cabin, a place that few have visited.



For most of the students this was their first time in the woods. They hiked 20 miles and along the way they learned how to be aware of their surroundings at all times to be safe, while enjoying the the spectacular views of the mountains like Merced River Canyon and the Little Nellie Falls. Of course, the grand finale was the unforgettable last night, as they slept in the wilderness under the stars. A GG student, Francisco Rodriguez, said, *"I wanted to give up on the 20 mile hike, but the other students kept telling me to keep going. I had such as a great feeling when I finally made it! I saw beautiful mountain sights and I now know that we have to help protect the land."*

Pictures:(top right, left to right) David Harro, Orange Cove High School; Juana Rosas, CCC Rural Coordinator; and Angel Rodriguez, Orange Cove High School.

### Kids Learn to Stop, Drop, and Roll

- By Jose Zavala

Students at A.L. Conner Elementary School in Orange Cove, CA were full of excitement as they sat down at a school assembly to prepare for Smokey Bear's lessons on fire safety. By now they are very familiar with Smokey Bear and his fire safety message, as he has visited them before as part of the Central California Consortium's (CCC) Environmental Education program. CCC staff member, Jose Zavala, teaches environmental education at A.L. Conner Elementary and Citrus Middle School during the afterschool program, where he makes it a priority to share the Forest Service's mission clear and stress the importance of conserving and preserving. Jose Segura, a Generation Green (GG) volunteer, states, *"We tell the kids that Smokey's friends help prevent fires and protect the environment. The kids want to be Smokeys' friends, so they listen to us and promise to do their part."*



The picture to the right shows Jose Zavala (blue shirt) and GG volunteer, Jose Segura (white shirt) teaching students the correct way to stop, drop, and roll. Students also learned about plants, and siculture. Future lessons include the web of life which will introduce the students to water systems, soil science, and animals (e.g. herbivores, omnivores, carnivores, and decomposers).



### Teamwork Produces a School Vegetable Garden

- By Jose Zavala

Our environmental education program serves students from elementary to high school grades. The elementary and middle school program is also part of the Central California Consortium's Generation Green (GG). CCC staff member, Jose Zavala, teaches environmental education lessons to students using a hands on approach.

Under the direction of Forest Service Landscape Architect, Trini Juarez, students from Mrs. Finarelli's Citrus Middle School class, initiated a school garden project in the spring of 2008. These students planned the garden and created an accurate measurements and layout of the grounds. Thanks to Trini, they felt like real landscape architects. The students chose their favorite garden plan and the groundbreaking took place on Cinco de Mayo, May 5, 2008. They added rich soil to help the plants and fruit grow and leveled the soil to prevent erosion. Through the remainder of the semester, students cared for the garden by watering and measuring growth. It was a great outdoor classroom, as students learned about plant anatomy, photosynthesis, siculture and gardening. One student, Victor (pictured top left in yellow shirt), stated, *"We had fun planting and oh yeah....we got our hands dirty too."*



During the summer the garden grew delicious tomatoes and watermelons; something the students enjoyed eating! As the new school year initiated, the harvest season ended and students began learning about how plants decompose to create richer soil. The students cleared the garden with the help of GG Orange Cove High School students (see bottom right picture). Currently, the middle school students are making plans for the future. One idea they have suggested is to plant a palm tree in the middle of the garden and surround it with colorful flowers.



## Reaching the Local Hmong Community

- By Chor Yang

The Central California Consortium (CCC) understands that in order to reach the underserved communities, it must be accessible and welcoming. What better way, than to participate in their community events like the Hmong Resource Fair and the Hmong Water Festival.

The 3rd Annual Hmong Resource Fair was held on August 16th, 2008 at the Manchester Center in Fresno, CA. It was an opportunity for local businesses and organizations to introduce the goods and services that they provide to the community. This event is organized by KBIF, which is one of the largest Hmong Radio Station in the Central Valley. This year the CCC partnered with the California Amer-Asian Resource Education (C.A.R.E) to host an environmental education and resource booth. Chor Yang, CCC Asian Community Liaison stated, *"We were able to provide information on safe versus dangerous camp fires, poisonous mushrooms and other plants in the forest, new regulation on using lead bullets, and we even issued camp fire permits. But most importantly, we successfully communicated that the Forest Service and the CCC were there to serve the community by providing resources and important information regarding public lands."*



Another outreach event, the Hmong Water Festival (pictured above), took place on May 24th -26th, 2008 at the City of Fresno Sports Regional Park. This Festival brought together Hmong people from throughout the Central Valley to celebrate in the sizzling hot summer with culture, traditions, sports, water games, and good food. The event is one of the largest Southeast Asian sports tournaments, entertainment, and import auto shows in California. It is a three day event with an average of 6,000 attendees daily. Chor Yang and C.A.R.E members hosted an environmental education and resource booth to educate the Hmong community on Forest Service rules and regulations, fire prevention. In addition, camp fire permits and gun locks were provided.



## National and International Outreach

- By Chor Yang

The 13th Annual Hmong National Development Conference took place in Denver, Colorado on March 27-29, 2008. The theme was "Choices, Changes, Consequences: Reflecting on our Past, Creating our Future". The conference celebrated and reflected upon the progress, successes and contributions of Hmong-Americans. Chor Yang, Central California Consortium (CCC) Asian Liaison, attended the conference to help connect the Hmong community to the Forest Service (FS). Chor helped host a Forest Service informational booth and networked to inform the Hmong community on the FS and CCC mission and goals. The FS encouraged attendees to recreate on public lands and to help take care of the land through conservation and preservation. The conference provided resources, such as workshops on professional development, entrepreneurship, and college and career opportunities. There were over 600 attendees who ranged from professionals to students.



For the 10th consecutive year, the CCC participated in the Hmong International New Year, held on December 26th, 2007 through January 1, 2008 at the Fairgrounds in Fresno, CA. It is the largest Hmong New Year celebration in the world with an average attendance of about 15,000 people each day. Attendees come from around the United States and other countries like France and China. This year it hosted an informational booth in partnership with the Sierra National Forest (SNF) Fire Prevention and CARE (California Amer-Asian Resource Education; a non profit serving the Hmong community. It was another successful outreach event (pictured at left), as resources were provided, 700 camp fire permits were issued, and job opportunities were shared.

Pictures: **(top right)** The community comes out to attend the Annual Hmong Water Festival. **(middle left)** Hmong students pose in front of the FS fire prevention booth. **(bottom left)** Chor Yang (in red) and a FS Fire Prevention staff member share resources at the Hmong New Year.

## 3rd Annual Hispanic Youth Symposium

- By Saul Fernandez

For the third consecutive year, the Central California Consortium (CCC) is helping the Hispanic College Fund (HCF, lead organization) coordinate the Central Valley Hispanic Youth Symposium (HYS). This took place July 24-27, 2008, at California State University, Fresno (CSUF). The conference brought over 100 high school students from the central valley to encourage higher education, connect students to local and national role models, and expose the students to various careers. The students learned how to network, apply for college, finance college, and more. They attended career workshops, a college/career fair, and they met role models through the "Hispanic Heroes" workshop. The students also earned one college unit at CSUF and competed for about \$15,000 in college scholarships through an array of competitions. Carlos Ramirez, a senior at Reedley High School, said, *"I learned to value education, be proud of my Hispanic roots, and I now know that I have many career options to choose from."*



The Forest Service was once again a big contributor to this conference. CCC Program Director, James Oftedal, served as the Padrino/Chairman, provided guidance in planning and presented a motivational speech. CCC staff members, Jose Zavala and Saul Fernandez, assisted the Resident Coordinator. Southern California Consortium's (SCC) Fabian Garcia, SCC Director, served as the Talent Show Chair, Victor Rios filmed the symposium, while Angie Rios and Nadine Barragan served as Resident Assistants. CCC Program Specialist, Lily Nieves, coordinated and facilitated the Public Service workshops, which highlighted federal careers by introducing leaders from the Forest Service, Social Security Administration, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and more. Peggy Hernandez, Los Padres National Forest Supervisor, closed the conference with encouraging words and tips for success. It was another successful conference due to the hard work of many partners including: HCF, CSUF, Central Valley Higher Education Consortium, Social Security Administration., SCC and more. The CCC will continue to encourage higher education and educate youth to be good stewards. For more information on HYS, please visit [hispanicyouth.org](http://hispanicyouth.org)

## State Fair Leadership Camp Teaches Fire Safety

- By Juana Rosas

For the past 10 plus years the Central California Consortium (CCC), in partnership with Regional Fire Prevention Management, has hosted the Generation Green (GG) Leadership Camp at the Cal Expo State Fair. This year it was held August 14 to September 2, 2008. Twenty nine bilingual students from Orange Cove, Reedley, and South Tahoe High School learned about the importance of being good stewards and giving back to the community. They taught fire prevention, conservation and preservation at the Camp Smokey Exhibition (pictured right top) to thousands of kids and adults from different backgrounds. They worked alongside Forest Service and other agency representatives such as the Bureau of Land Management and Cal Fire. Angel Rodriguez, GG student participant, said, *"Seeing the kids' smiles every single day made me so happy. If I was able to touch even one child's life, then I accomplished my goal."*



The students were housed at the University of California at Davis dorms. Students participated in leadership building and team building activities, as well as completed school homework. They also learned about college admission requirements through a workshop from the California State University, Sacramento College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP). Jim Oftedal, CCC Director, stated, *"The students learned good work ethic, independence and how to be responsible. They will continue their education and go on to college. Some of them are interested in careers with the Forest Service."*



The leadership camp culminated on October 23, 2008 with an awards banquet (see above picture). The students shared their experience and thanked all partners in front of an audience comprised of their families, Forest Service partners, school representatives, and community partners.



**Supervisors....**  
**Are You Looking for an Intern???**

**Students....**  
**Are You Looking for an Internship???**

For over 10 years the Central California Consortium (CCC) has provided high quality students to work in a variety of Forest Service positions throughout California and other states.

If you are a supervisor looking for a bright and talented diverse students to work for you during the summer, let us find you a quality employee! We have a diverse applicant pool.

If you are a student looking for paid summer employment a great learning experience, then our summer internships are for you. We offer positions in a variety of fields and majors.

For more information please contact Julissa Gonzalez, CCC Job Placement Coordinator at (559) 297-0706 ext. 4962. Supervisors and students can find more information online at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/ccc/internship/>



## *Our Mission*

The Central California Consortium is an environmental education, outreach, and recruitment program. The CCC serves as bridge between the USDA Forest Service, underserved areas, and community partners. Our mission is to diversify the Forest Service workforce by encouraging careers in natural resources, higher education, and employment through mentoring, leadership, and community outreach efforts. We are committed to providing an all inclusive, nurturing, respectful, and positive work environment.

For More Information:  
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