

Robotics Team Wins Award at World Championship Competition



Students from Michael Smidebush's ROP Robotics Engineering class at **Concord High** took home three trophies in a spring competition for Northern California, and qualified to go to the VEX World Championships in Dallas on April 22-24. Top row: David Lambertson, Andy Renwick, Kristian Strotz, Nick Bublitz, and Daniel Baldwin. Bottom row: Shelby Lope, Kevin Mayo, Ethan Padilla, Matt Johnson, and James Hodgskiss. *Update:* As we go to press, we've just learned that the Concord High team, which also includes Will Grebe and Kyle Albert, won the **Educate Award** at the World Championships in Dallas.

Dream Comes True for ROP Grad



ROP graduate Shayne Webb trades pointers with Jabree Id-deen at **Antioch High**

"It's truly a dream come true," says Shayne Webb, who took Erin Susoev's ROP Art and Animation class at **Antioch High** five years ago and now has a high paying job in the graphic arts industry.

"Everything I learned in this class got me interested in this field," he says.

Shayne now gets to fly all over the world to discuss projects with clients.

Magic Behind the Scenes



ROP Video Production at **Berkeley High**

Students from Dharini Rasiah's ROP Video Production class at **Berkeley High** attended a presentation by Lucasfilm's Industrial Light & Magic, which created the special effects for many blockbuster films, such as *Pirates of the Caribbean* and *Transformers*.

The presenters showed film clips and discussed the techniques used in making special effects, as well as the education needed to succeed in this field.

Best of the West

Two ROP Journalism classes won awards for their school newspapers at the Journalism Education Association of Northern California Convention in Sacramento this fall. *The Californian* from **California High** won top Best of the West honors under the guidance of ROP Journalism Instructor Brian Barr, and the *Titan Template* from **Hercules High** rated Excellent in the Best of the West division under the guidance of ROP Journalism Instructor Natalie Wojnski.

Big Thanks

The inside pages of this issue highlight photos of 41 students (out of over 11,000 students served by the Contra Costa County ROP) who won ROP Students of Excellence awards this year. **Many thanks to our sponsors** who made possible the monetary awards for these outstanding students. **Chevron** sponsored the majority of the awards, **John Muir Health** sponsored the health awards, and **Walnut Creek Honda** sponsored the auto award.

Mission

To enable all learners to achieve their highest personal, academic, and career potential through state-of-the-art educational programs and services.

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