



# WARRIOR VILLAGE PROJECT®

501 (c)(3) Nonprofit

The Bugle: Vol 5, Issue 4, April 2023

[www.WarriorVillageProject.com](http://www.WarriorVillageProject.com)

## PROGRESS REPORT



Participants at the 2023 SOCAL Design Build Competition organized by the Construction Industry Education Foundation (CIEF). March 22 - 23, 2023 | Golden West College, Huntington Beach, CA

Although I have written about the [Design Build Competition](#) sponsored by the [Construction Industry Education Foundation](#) (CIEF) several times, I had never attended the annual event. So, when CIEF's Program Manager, [Brittany Albaugh](#), invited me to the Industry Lunch on the second day of the event in Huntington Beach, I jumped at the chance. Although Brittany had me at 'free lunch', I was more excited about finally seeing this awesome event in person. Twenty-five southern California teams comprised of 340 high school students participated. They worked for 14+ hours in two days in the rain and wind to build structures that will be donated to their communities. Read more about the SOCAL Design Build Competition and our San Diego County participants on page 2.

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### FUTURE EVENTS

**Last Day of School at SMHS  
June 7, 2023**

[WarriorVillageProject.com](http://WarriorVillageProject.com)

## VIP PROFILE

### Our Students

The [Construction Industry Education Foundation](#) (CIEF) held its 38th annual [Design Build Competition](#) this year. During the four-month Design Build program student teams design a structure and prepare several construction documents according to criteria outlined by CIEF. Teams then build the structure they designed during a two-day competition where they are judged by industry professionals on the completion of the design, construction, code compliance and safety.

CIEF provides all construction materials listed in the Instructor Guide for the Competition. Teams are encouraged to **build with a purpose** and donate their structures to local nonprofits or sell them to fund a worthwhile cause in their community.

**CIEFoundation**  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES CORDIALLY  
INVITES YOU TO ATTEND

CONSTRUCTION  
INDUSTRY EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
**DESIGNBUILD**  
COMPETITION

*Competition*  
MARCH 22 AND 23, 2003  
8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
Golden West College Lot D  
15744 Goldenwest Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92647

*The Industry Lunch*  
MARCH 23, 2003  
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Program at 12:15 pm

**WWW.DESIGNBUILDCOMPETITION.COM**

**Participating Schools**

- Alta Vista Innovation High School – San Bernardino
- Apple Valley High School – San Bernardino
- Arvin High School – Kern
- Central Union High – San Diego
- Century High School – Los Angeles
- Don Bosco – Los Angeles
- Fontana High School – San Bernardino
- Hamilton High School – Orange County
- Huntington Park High School – Los Angeles
- Long Beach City College – Los Angeles
- Los Angeles Trade Technical College – Los Angeles
- Mark Richardson Career Technical Education Center & Ag Farm (MRCTECAP) – Santa Barbara
- Mira Mesa High School – San Diego
- NOCROP @ Savannah High School – Orange County
- NOCROP @ Brea Olinda High School – Orange County
- NOCROP @ Western High School – Orange County
- NOCROP @ Valencia High School – Orange County
- Norte Vista High School – Riverside
- Orange Grove High School – Orange County
- Rancho Buena Vista – San Diego
- Rancho Verde High School – Riverside
- Rialto High School – San Bernardino
- Santee Education Complex – Los Angeles
- South El Monte High School – Los Angeles
- South Gate High School – Los Angeles
- Sultana High School – Hesperia
- Tahquitz High School – Riverside
- Thousand Oaks High School – Ventura
- West Hills High School and IDEA Center - Grossmont Unified – San Diego

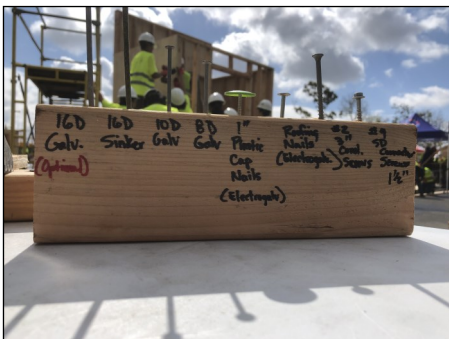
This year's Southern California Design Build Competition culminated in two days of construction activity at [Golden West College](#) in Huntington Beach on March 22 and 23. Twenty-five teams comprised of 340 students participated in the competition, including three teams from four San Diego County high schools: [Mira Mesa High School](#) (San Diego); [Rancho Buena Vista High School](#) (Vista), and; [West Hills High School](#) and [IDEA Center](#) (Santee and El Cajon).

# **BUILD WITH A PURPOSE**



# VIP PROFILE

## Our Students (continued)





## VIP PROFILE

### Our Students (continued)



The Design Build Competition is a multi-faceted event. The students work on the job site for two days building their structures, assisted by industry professionals, including carpenters from local chapters of the [Southwest Mountain States Regional Council of Carpenters](#).

*The Design Build Competition “is a great opportunity to demonstrate and apply the concepts that they have been learning throughout the year. It’s beneficial for them to receive feedback, insight, and encouragement from industry professionals.” - Landon Cardenas, Construction Teacher, [Rancho Buena Vista High School](#), Vista, California.*

I saw a lot of familiar faces at the Design Build Competition; the Construction Industry Career Technical Education world is small. In addition to the San Diego schools that were represented in Huntington Beach, I saw quite a few schools from the [Building Industry Technology Academy](#) (BITA) statewide network.

[Fontana High School](#) from San Bernardino County was one of eight BITA schools at the Competition. Fontana received the **Rookie Team of the Year Award**. The Fontana team was led by construction teacher Lamar Hanger. Lamar is a retired, 31-year skilled professional union carpenter. In 2021, [Lamar](#) was a cast member in the third season of the CBS show [Tough-as-Nails](#). According to the show’s host, Phil Keoghan, “*Hanger is loud and strong.*” I confirmed this impression in Huntington Beach. Lamar looks strong like a Green Beret, and he is definitely loud. His loudness effuses positive, encouraging energy. I’m not surprised that he led his team to the Rookie Award!



The **Craftmanship Award** was won by [Valencia High School](#) from Placentia, another BITA network school. Valencia won the award for having the highest combined Construction Evaluation and Building Code Compliance scores. I visited Valencia High School with a group of educators in March 2019 to learn more about the BITA program. I met Roy Morrison, the teacher for Valencia’s construction program at the time. I left Valencia very impressed with Roy, his program, and the vitality of his students. So, I wasn’t surprised in Huntington Beach to see that Valencia’s [Residential and Commercial Construction](#) program is still thriving and training top-notch builders!



The winner of the **Construction Manager of the Year Award** was a tie between **Miguel Velasquez** from the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District and **Jacob Garrison** from the [West Hills High School - IDEA Center](#) - Grossmont Unified School District team. This award recognizes individuals who meet deadlines, exemplify leadership skills and garner the greatest points for their video submission.

Rancho Verde High School won the **Team Safety Award**. Central Union High School and Don Bosco Technical Institute received **Architectural Awards** for the **Open** and **Shed Competitions**, respectively. Tahquitz High School and Sultana High School won the **Best of Show** for the **Open** and **Shed Competitions**, respectively. The **Honorable Mention Award** went to Los Angeles Trade Technical College.



## VIP PROFILE

### Our Students (continued)

The **Safety Person of the Year Award** was presented to 8 individuals; each managing to tie with a 100% score. Each recipient demonstrated a thorough understanding of worksite safety, appropriate safety regulations, and documentation. **Daniel Naranjo** from [Fontana High School](#) and **Alfredo Cosme** from [Valencia High School](#) were among these winners.

A total of \$31,500 in scholarships were awarded to Design Build Competition participants. Five senior Design Build scholarship winners were announced during the competition. **Gabriel Burton Contreras** from [IDEA Center High School](#) in El Cajon was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to continue his trades education.



**Want to get involved next year?**

Contact Brittany Albaugh at [BAalbaugh@cie.foundation](mailto:BAalbaugh@cie.foundation) or (214) 241-1090.



[CLICK HERE TO VIEW MORE EVENT PHOTOS](#)



VIP PROFILE  
Our Students (continued)  
Mira Mesa High School, San Diego



[Mira Mesa High School](#) students competed in the Design Build Competition for the first time this year. They competed in the Open Competition, so they could incorporate additional materials in their project and had a little more latitude to be creative with their design. The Mira Mesa team represented the school's College, Career and Technical Education (CCTE) [Engineering Technology Industry Sector Pathway](#). Meena Nandakumar, the instructor for the class, is an Electronics Engineer by training, but she wants her students to be exposed to a variety of trades and career options.





## VIP PROFILE

### Our Students (continued)

### Rancho Buena Vista High School, Vista



Landon Cardenas, construction teacher for [Rancho Buena Vista High School](#) (RBV), started learning building skills working for his father's roofing business. His construction program at RBV is still young; its first class of students joined the program in the 2021 - 2022 academic year. RBV uses the Building Industry Technology Academy (BITA) curriculum for classroom instruction. The program has come a long way in a very short period of time.





## VIP PROFILE

Our Students (continued)

West Hills High School and Idea Center High School



[West Hills High School](#) (Santee) and [IDEA Center High School](#) (El Cajon) from the [Grossmont Union High School District](#) combined forces to compete in the Design Build Competition this year. Kathy Worley and Todd Myers led the team in Huntington Beach. Kathy teaches Woodshop and Drafting at West Hills High School. Todd is the Building Trades and Construction teacher at Idea Center High School. Both have years of years of experience to share with their students.





# SCHOOLS

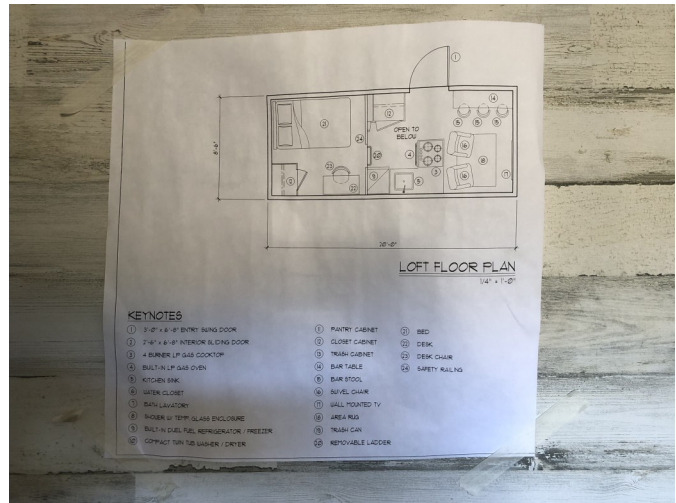
## The Learning Choice Academy

In May 2004, the San Diego Unified School District approved [The Learning Choice Academy](#) (TLC) and authorized it to serve students in grades K - 12. TLC is a public hybrid home school with a mission to *empower students to reach their full potential by providing choice in education within collaborative triads of parents, students, and school*. Families can choose between a 100% homeschool program, or a hybrid program, with 3 days at school and 2 days at home.

TLC has charters for three school sites with sponsors from local school districts, including the Chula Vista Elementary School District, the Grossmont Union High School District, and the San Diego Unified School District:

- [The Learning Choice Academy Chula Vista Charter](#) (Chula Vista Elementary School District)
- [The Learning Choice Academy East County/La Mesa Charter](#) (Grossmont Union High School District)
- [The Learning Choice Academy San Diego Charter](#) (San Diego Unified School District)

I heard about The Learning Choice Academy from the organizers of [TinyFest California](#). I was told that TLC was building tiny houses and that they would be showing their houses at the Del Mar County Fairgrounds on March 11 - 12. With a little 'googling' I discovered that students were building tiny houses in TLC's Career Technical Education / Applied Sustainable Construction class. In fact, they were building houses that they had designed. This piqued my curiosity. So, when TLC's CTE Instructor, Travis Nixon, and I were introduced by email, I invited myself to visit his class. In his classroom, I heard Travis talk with his students about the trade offs in sustainable home design.



Travis' students work together, and in collaboration with industry professionals, in their classroom and outside at their build site. The students undertake all aspects of their tiny house project, including design, development, and construction. Following the building of their tiny homes, students will go through the process of selling them, which gives them additional skills in marketing and sales. The sale profits will be used to support the following year's class in their tiny house project.



'Ctrl Click'  
TLC Logo below for  
'Tiny Home Project in  
60 Seconds' video





## SCHOOLS

### The Learning Choice Academy (continued)

Travis says that *“the project not only teaches students social-emotional skills and relevant job skills, it also empowers them to address real community needs related to affordable housing and sustainability.”* He adds that *“the project has been well received and in future years, we would like to expand to our second school site”* located in Chula Vista.

Travis is a fourth generation electrical contractor who has worked as an electrician for over 30 years. He knows his way around a construction site, but he has the Zen vibe of a philosopher. Travis notes that their Tiny House Project is much more than a building project; the tiny home build helps students discover what the Japanese refer to as “ikigai” - identifying the intersection between what you are good at, what you enjoy, and what you can contribute to the world. Whether it is engineering, construction, design, sales, or something else entirely, TLC’s goal is to help students find their path before they graduate so they can make informed and productive post-high school decisions.

TLC students were among the seven schools that participated in the **Tiny Home Student Career Connection** day preceding TinyFest. They also participated in a panel discussion on the TinyFest Main Stage in a presentation entitled: *“Investing in our Youth - Student Builders from The Learning Choice Academy.”* I was impressed by how confident and articulate the students were when answering questions about what they had learned about construction and themselves by building a tiny home, and how the experience impacted their plans for their futures.





## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

### San Marcos High School

In April we were blessed with lots of sunshine, which enabled our students to work outside every Wednesday morning, as planned. They started installing siding on the front of the house, after completing the back of the house in March. They also finished building window frames for the remaining 4 windows. We do not allow our students to work on top of the house, so adult volunteers started installing [United Steel Stone Coated Roofing](#) donated to our program by [Westlake Royal Roofing Solutions](#).

Our students were also back at work on the garden shed that they are building for the Agricultural Department, using decking material donated by [Weyerhaeuser](#) as siding.

It takes a lot of material to keep all of Chris Geldert's students busy. On April 26, they unloaded a lot of lumber to keep them busy in the workshop for the remainder of the school year.





## PARTNERS

### Tiny Home Central

In our [December 2022 Newsletter](#), we told you about the Moveable Tiny House (MTH) [Urban Corps](#) builders were building for [Ellen Stone](#), co-founder of the San Diego Chapter of the [American Tiny House Association \(ATHA\)](#) and Founder and Managing Director of [Tiny Home Central](#). The house has been completed and installed in Ellen's backyard as an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) in Normal Heights.

A Moveable Tiny House (MTH) meeting the requirements of the [City of San Diego Development Services Department Information Bulletin 403](#) can be installed as an ADU in the City. Ellen explained the process and costs for building, permitting and installing her house in a presentation, *Putting a Movable Tiny House in your backyard - A homeowner's perspective*, at TinyFest on March 12. Through [Tiny Home Central](#), Ellen provides consulting services to those needing help with a wide range of tiny home-related projects. She wants to expand opportunities for people to live tiny by bringing together single family home owners who have a potential backyard MTH site with potential tiny home owners or renters.



Ellen is a trailblazer among tiny home enthusiasts. As reported by Jeff Zevely on [CBS8's Zevely Zone](#), "when Ellen Stone got married, her friends and family members gave her money to buy a tiny home. She no longer needed that money. 'Because we found a house, we are now making this for someone else,' said Ellen. She and her husband paid \$75,000 to pilot the building program with Urban Corps; future builds will likely be more affordable. She intends to use the house to provide a home for a student in need. 'For someone, for someone looking to improve their life,' said Ellen. 'It's just our values, if I get what I need then it's only fair to pass it on. I'm so excited.'"

(continued)



## PARTNERS

### Tiny Home Central (continued)

**Ellen and Greg's tiny home is the first legal Moveable Tiny House in San Diego!** They hosted an open house for their MTH on March 15. Ellen shared 'how tos' and 'don't dos' with their guests. Kyle Kennedy, Chief Executive Officer of [Urban Corps](#) came to support Urban Corps Construction Services Manager Steve Poppert and student builders Mussie, Anna, Julian and Jazmin.

[Interfaith Community Services](#) was represented by Chief Executive Officer Greg Anglea and Chief Development Officer Varinda Missett. Assistant Project Manager Ileanna Bryant represented [Habitat for Humanity](#). Naveed Harris came on behalf of San Diego City Council President Sean Elo-Rivera.

From the [Poway Unified School District](#), Career Education Specialist Jeremy Martin and Teacher Joe Ismay came to compare notes on tiny house construction with the Urban Corps building team. [Poway High School](#) is building two tiny houses from the same plans that Urban Corps used.

Contact Ellen Stone at [Ellen@TinyHomeCentral.org](mailto:Ellen@TinyHomeCentral.org) to schedule an appointment to view her tiny house.



A backyard urban oasis, by Ellen and Greg Stone and Urban Corps.



Greg, Kyle, Joe & Jeremy compare construction notes.



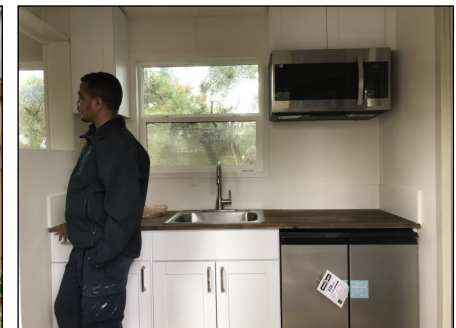
Steve, Joe & Mussie talked about interior features and finishes.



Varinda, Greg, Naveed, Ellen and Ileanna.



Urban Corps students Anna and Julian with staff members Jose and Teresa.



A small, but functional, kitchen. A kitchen, bathroom, sleeping area, electricity, water supply, and sewer connection are required for a MTH.



SPONSORS

# Thank You Design Build Sponsors!



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**EquipmentShare**



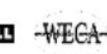
**MARTIN  
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**WT**  
Whiting-Turner





## DONATE TO THE WARRIOR VILLAGE PROJECT

We can provide truly affordable, permanent housing. But, we can't do it for free. To succeed, we need financial support. The materials required to build our cottages cost about \$60,000 per cottage (June 2022 estimate). It will cost about \$10,000 to transport a cottage to its installation site. The cost of installing a cottage as an Accessory Dwelling Unit will depend on the site. But, it should cost about \$30,000 per cottage. Hence, we can provide permanent housing for a veteran for about \$100,000 per unit (\$250/sq ft). This is a bargain compared to the cost of government supported 'affordable' housing projects. According to the [Turner Center for Housing Innovation](#) at UC Berkeley, in 2019 it cost an average of \$480,000 (\$700/sq ft) to build one unit of affordable housing in California under the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program.

**Donors who wish to donate for the construction of our cottages at San Marcos High School can make a contribution through our fiscal sponsor, [The San Marcos Promise](https://thesanmarcospromise.org/donate/#ways-to-donate) (<https://thesanmarcospromise.org/donate/#ways-to-donate>), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.**

- **Online Donations:** When you donate online, please '*Leave A Comment*' indicating that your donation is for the [Warrior Village Project](#).
- **Donations by Check:** Mail your check, made payable to [The San Marcos Promise](#), to:

**The San Marcos Promise  
255 Pico Avenue, Suite 103  
San Marcos, CA 92069**

**Please write on the Check's Memo Line that your donation is for the [Warrior Village Project](#).**

*Please help us to provide affordable, permanent housing for homeless veterans while training the next generation of homebuilders.*

## PROJECT CONTACTS

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The San Marcos Promise ..	Lisa Stout.....	760-290-2373 ..	<a href="mailto:Lisa@TheSanMarcosPromise.org">Lisa@TheSanMarcosPromise.org</a>

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