

# Calaveras Youth Mentoring Program

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## Celebration of Mentoring coming Jan. 25

(Angels Camp) – The Calaveras Youth Mentoring Program invites interested individuals to a special “Celebration of Mentoring” event to be held January 25 at the Murphys Historic Hotel’s Ballroom at 457 Main Street from 4 to 6 p.m. (note change of location). During the festivities Kathryn Eustis, Director of Youth Development and Prevention Programs at the Calaveras County Office of Education, will recognize community residents who have helped the program thrive including the Calaveras Youth Mentoring Program Advisory Committee, Calaveras Mentoring Foundation board members, and mentors and mentees past and present. A few mentors and mentees will take a moment to share what they have experienced.

Also during the event, local businesses Vintage Realty, Weber, Ghio and Associates, O.A.R.S., and Bear Valley Mountain Resort will receive certificates of appreciation for their support over the years. At the culmination of “Celebration of Mentoring” the audience will get a sneak peek at the new Calaveras Youth Mentoring Program recruiting video. Beverages and light appetizers will be served, and there is no charge to attend.

“On this significant day we want to thank all those who have made the Calaveras Youth Mentoring Program possible,” said Eustis. “And, it’s a wonderful opportunity to learn about the program and how it benefits our youth and the community. We encourage everyone who is curious about the program to attend this gala event.”

January is National Mentoring Month and on National Thank Your Mentor Day (January 25) many Americans will reach out to thank or honor those individuals who encouraged and guided them and had a lasting impact on their lives. Thank Your Mentor Day promotes “Four Ways to Honor Your Mentor:” 1) contact your mentor directly to express your appreciation; 2) pass on what you received by becoming a mentor to a young person in your community; 3) make a financial contribution to a local mentoring program; and, 4) write a tribute to your mentor for posting on [www.WhoMentoredYou.org](http://www.WhoMentoredYou.org).

“The response from the community during National Mentoring Month has been incredible so far,” adds Eustis. “Several potential mentors have contacted us, and we have two volunteers ready to match this week and two next week. We need volunteers not only to mentor, but to recommend mentors and help us with fundraising. There are so many ways to help.”

The mission of the Calaveras Youth Mentoring Program is to connect Calaveras County young people in first through twelfth grades with safe, positive adult role models who will offer support, guidance, friendship, and help the youth make healthy life decisions. Potential mentors are thoroughly screened to ensure the safety of the youth in the program. Once matched, mentors and mentees spend a couple of hours a week together for at least a year doing things they both enjoy—sports, going out to supper, seeing a movie, or working on a project. Mentors receive extensive pre-match training and then additional education throughout the year, plus regular monitoring of the friendship, as-needed support, and invitations to group field trips and events.

R.S.V.P.'s for the "Celebration of Mentoring" are recommended by calling 736-6078. For more information, call or visit online at [www.calaverasmentoring.org](http://www.calaverasmentoring.org).

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