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4-H Imperial Valley youth voices project

BY SHANNA ABATTI
Special to this Newspaper

Are you a youth in Imperial County between the ages of 15-18? Do you have a love for photography? Or maybe writing/story telling? How about video editing? Or maybe you have always been interested but never knew where to start!

Don't miss out. This next week we begin registration to kick off a series of workshops and focus groups centered around multimedia storytelling.

The Imperial Valley youth voices project is a collaborative effort between Imperial County 4-H, Renaissance Journalism, The Vesper Society, and MiCLX to create a multimedia storytelling platform for youth! We will be offering monthly multimedia storytelling workshops for youth on topics such as photography, videography, interviewing, journalism/writing, website design, etc. This is a forum where young people can unleash their creativity, share their voice and be heard! Club members have access to photo and video editing software and can post their



work for their mentors and other 4-H'ers to review and provide constructive feedback. Like other 4-H clubs, members set their own learning goals and mentors help them achieve those goals.

At the culmination of this event we will work together to compile all of the youth work, and a special community event showcasing the youth work. The workshops will be led by Angel and the Mi Calexico folks, as well as the journalists/teachers we recruited last year (e.g. Karina Lopez from IV Press, Esteban Ortiz and Richard Montenegro Brown).

We are also discussing the creation of a project website and

a one-time 12-page newspaper — as a way of showcasing youth work.

Want to learn more about this opportunity? Join us for 1 of 3 informational meetings to be held throughout the county! Registration and informational meetings will be held:

BRAWLEY

Where Chamber of Commerce,
204 S Imperial Ave., Brawley, CA
92227
When 6 p.m. Monday

EL CENTRO

Where Old Post Office Pavilion,
230 S. 5th St., El Centro, CA
92243
When 6:30 p.m. Tuesday

CALEXICO

Where Camarena Memorial Library,
850 Encinas Ave., Calexico,
CA 92231
When 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

This 4-H project provides the opportunity for 15- to 18-year-old's the opportunity to learn from professionals in cinematography, photography, audio production, graphic design and digital storytelling media. Imperial County 4-H cannot thank our collaborators enough! Through the generous support of the Vesper Society, opportunities for youth to excel and reach their fullest potential have skyrocketed! This is a prime example of an excellent opportunity for youth to broaden their horizons and develop strong multimedia skills. All youth in Imperial County are welcome to participate in this project. It is made possible through the guidance of Renaissance Journalism, a storytelling center in the Bay area, whose mission is to inspire journalists to expand their story telling practices along with MiCLX — a group of passionate Calexico community members whose purpose is to inform, inspire and connect our communities.

To learn more about 4-H or if you have any questions regarding this or other 4-H programs visit <http://ceimperial.ucanr.edu/4h> or call us at 442-265-7700.