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NEWS RELEASE - For immediate release

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Organization: Solano County Office of Education

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Red-Carpet Film Premiere Celebrates Nuerodiversity

SCOE Hosts Premiere Event for Tales from the Grave Film

VACAVILLE, CA – Solano County Office of Education invites the Solano community to celebrate neurodiversity at the red-carpet film premiere for the short film, Tales from the Grave, on Thursday, October 28, 2021 at 6:00 at Sunrise Event Center located at 620 Orange Drive in Vacaville. The young adults who helped make the film, will arrive in limousines, dressed in gowns and tuxedos for a walk down the red carpet. More than 300 Solano Community members will be joining the celebration in person. The event will also be broadcast live for those who prefer to view from home.

In partnership with North Bay Regional Center, <u>SCOE hosts film camps</u> through <u>Inclusion Films</u> at no cost to any student. Founded by veteran film maker Joey Travolta, Inclusion Films' film camps teach young adults 18-23 years with developmental differences the principles of film making. Within the two-week sessions, campers develop a script, act, and record their film with professional film making support and equipment. The idea for the film being debuted was developed this summer by young adults who attended SCOE's Inclusion Film camp.

Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson commented, "We are heartened by seeing so many community members and local businesses rally around our young people. SCOE hosts Inclusion Film camps to help our students with unique abilities build skills like communication, collaboration, responsibility and independence. The film premiere is really a celebration of neurodiversity and building community around our young people with differing abilities."

SCOE's film camp was cancelled in 2020 due to the pandemic, however, the SCOE workforce development department rallied in 2021 to make film camp a reality for 31 young adults. SCOE's Senior Director of Resource Development, Transition and Post-Secondary Options, Susan Labrecque, remarked, "Participants learn many transferrable work skills through film making, most importantly, they learn that their potential is limitless."

Members of the public can join the celebration virtually or in person by reserving tickets in advance or joining the live stream at www.solanocoe.net/scofilmcamp. Ticket reservations will be available through October 27th. The event will follow social distancing protocols with spaced cohort-seating, air purifiers, and hand sanitizing stations. All attendees are required to wear face masks throughout the event.

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Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) provides leadership, support, and fiscal oversight for charter schools and Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield-Suisun, Travis, Vacaville, and Vallejo school districts which serve approximately 63,000 students. Solano County Superintendent of Schools, Lisette Estrella-Henderson is elected by voters of Solano County. The Superintendent is a state constitutional officer who serves as the chief executive officer of SCOE and as a liaison between local school districts and the state.