



Job Corps Students Honored in Culinary Skills Competition

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(Reno, NV) – Two students from Sierra Nevada Job Corps Center (SNJCC) received awards in a statewide competition that tested their technical skills in culinary arts. Manual Duque and Charlotte Ward competed against approximately 600 students in the State of Nevada Skills USA Competition.

Duque received a gold medal in the Job Skills – Demonstration category for Culinary Arts and Ward received a bronze medal in the Interview Skills category for Culinary Arts. Duque, as the gold medalist in his category, will be traveling to the National Skills USA Competition from June 22-27 in Kansas City, Missouri.

The culinary students' awards only reinforce the strong belief their instructors have in them. "Our students work incredibly hard. They practice their skills day in and day out to get to the level they are at. I am very proud of them for what they have accomplished," said Debora Aragon, SNJCC culinary instructor and participant coordinator for the event.

SNJCC concentrates on providing educational and vocational training in 16 vocations for underprivileged youth ages 16-24 in Nevada. The hands-on learning environment and practical application of skills help a tremendous amount of learning happen in a very short period of time.

"Competitions like this help students gain self confidence," said SNJCC Director Ken Dugan. "We give them the opportunities to demonstrate the skills they have learned and the support system they need; one they may not have had before. They have an entire campus cheering them on."

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Sierra Nevada Job Corps Center is an educational and vocational training center for underprivileged Nevada youth ages 16-24. The program offers the chance to earn a G.E.D., high school diploma, training in one of 16 different vocations and up to two years of college for free. SNJCC, run by Management & Training Corporation, has operated in Reno, Nevada for 29 years and trains more than 800 students each year. For more information about the Sierra Nevada Job Corps Center, please call (775) 789-0839.

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