

# EDUCATION

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## NH-S art included in Philadelphia Flower Show

Skiles Roberts-Salvador is in fourth grade, and this year, her photo of a breadfruit is going to be in the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's Philadelphia Flower Show, the largest and longest-running indoor flower show in the world. She's pretty excited about that.

This year's show, "ARTiculture," celebrates the connection between art and horticulture and runs Saturday, March 1 through Sunday, March 9 at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia.

Delaware Valley College's exhibit, "Breakout!!" includes art-

work created by students from New Hope-Solebury School District. The display incorporates glimpses of nature through the eyes of children. The goal of the project is to raise awareness about the widening gap, or disconnect, between people, particularly children, and the outdoors. Kids who have art in the show will be taking a field trip to the event March 5.

"This generation is indoors more and there's more isolation with technology," said Michael Fleischacker, chair of DelVal's landscape architecture and environmental sciences department. "We're asking guests to break out

of their humdrum world, get away from their screens, and into the world of nature."

Students in DelVal's Flower Show course work with other students, alumni, faculty and staff volunteers on an exhibit each year. They met with students from New Hope-Solebury School District in the fall to explain the display they were looking to create.

For the art projects, about 1,400 New Hope-Solebury School District students were asked to think about what nature means to them. They created everything from carvings of beetles to photos of pine cones. Then, teachers chose about 39 of those pieces to be part of the display.

Mark Mannion, a K-5 art teacher, asked his classes to consider why people aren't in nature as much and had them actively seek out nature by bringing in items from their yards.

"Once they started working they really got into it," Mannion said. "It was interesting to see what they picked out to bring in. Some kids never noticed Osage oranges before, which are all over New Hope and were examining them for the first time. They would come into the room just to check out the items, or even just to smell the room."

Mannion said being part of the exhibit not only makes kids more aware, but it gives them a real sense of pride.

"It's a huge honor," Mannion said. "Some of them may be thinking, 'OK, I could do something like this when I grow up.' It opens up a



Delaware Valley College hosted Flower Show Preview Night Feb. 11. Parents and students from New Hope-Solebury School District attended to see art that was created by students in grades K-12. The art will be part of DelVal's exhibit in the Philadelphia Flower Show. From left are, Howard Eyre, DelVal assistant professor; Sophia Tasoluk, a student from New Hope-Solebury School District; New Hope-Solebury Lower Elementary School Principal Ken Silver; Antonio Patino, a student from New Hope-Solebury School District; K-5 art teacher Mark Mannion, and Michael Fleischacker, chair of DelVal's landscape architecture and environmental sciences department.

new world to them."

Ken Silver, principal of the district's Lower Elementary School said his goal is to teach the kids to be protective and respectful of nature.

"DelVal has been really generous with time and energy and has brought in experts in landscape design and horticulture to meet

with and collaborate with our students and teachers," Silver said.

The collaboration wasn't the first and likely will not be the last. The college and the district have partnered on projects in the past, including an outdoor classroom, which the DelVal students designed and built for the Lower Elementary School.



Giana Griffiths points out her art to her mom, Danielle, at Flower Show Preview Night.

## Agricultural scholarship established in memory of Joseph Matejick

In honor of Joe Matejick, the Bucks County Conservation District has established the Joseph F. Matejick Memorial Scholarship for Continuing Education.

Matejick, a longstanding member of the board of directors at Bucks County Conservation District, was a leader in the agricultural community of Bucks County. He died in a fatal accident on his farm in 2013.

Matejick was hard working and respected for his abilities and knowledge of farming and agricultural practices and dedi-

cated himself to his family and farm.

The continuing education scholarship in the amount of \$2,000 per year is open to all Bucks County residents who have graduated high school and wish to advance their education in agriculture, horticulture, environmental science or any related field. Scholarship may be used for college tuition or continuing education.

For more information and an application form, visit the Environmental Education page listed on bucksced.org.

## CB South robotics team qualifies for states

The Central Bucks High School South First Tech Challenge Robotics Team has qualified for the state championship after winning the Lehigh Valley Qualifier on Feb. 22.

The state championship takes place March 1 at Millersville University.

The challenge was founded by Dean Kamen, the inventor of the Segway Scooter. The program, along with First Robotics Challenge and First Lego League (for elementary students) get students involved in hands on science, engineering, and design.

This is the second year that CB South has had a robotics team.



The Central Bucks High School South First Tech Challenge Robotics Team, from left, front row: Elizabeth Huhn, Scott Moyer, Charlotte Hahn; back row: Robbie Zimmerman, Sam Taylor, Ryan McGinnis, Jeremy McGinnis, Rick Moyer, Ryan Apsche, Sam Kim and Nathan Britton.

## MBIT students enter White House film festival

Students in the Multimedia Technology program at Middle Bucks Institute of Technology recently competed in the first White House Student Film Festival.

The focus of the film festival is to highlight the many uses of technology in schools. Submissions need to show how technology is currently used in the classroom or how it will be utilized in the future. In order to compete in the festival, the students uploaded a one-to

three-minute short video on YouTube that addressed these topics.

The production team consisted of Daniel Berger (William Tennent), Nicholas Brodgar (Central Bucks South), Juan Leonor (Centennial School District), Kyle Lutz (Central Bucks East), Christopher Nelson (Central Bucks East) and Lance Tucker (William Tennent).

The deadline to submit videos was Jan. 29, at which point mem-

bers of the White House staff began reviewing the videos to select those which will be presented at the White House Film Festival.

If the MBIT video is selected as a finalist, the students will be invited to a video screening at the White House in addition to having their video posted on the White House website, YouTube channel, and social media sites. The students will also receive a celebratory certificate of their prestigious accomplishment.

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## On the map

St. Joseph/St. Robert School students recently participated in the National Geography Bee at the school level. Luke Moffett, eighth grade, was the first-place winner and Matthew Quigley, seventh grade, finished second. Winning at the school-level competition qualifies Moffett to take the written test, required towards further advancement in the National Geographic Bee. From left are Moffett, faculty coordinator Alissa Devito and Quigley.