

# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



ABC NorCal participated in the [Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission \(FEOC\)](#) Valley Apprenticeship Connections Career Fair. Our instructor, and graduated apprentice Richard Brown, spoke to 50+ students about construction trades and his experience as an apprentice with ABC NorCal. Our goal is to get individuals thinking long term about careers in construction and advocating for the Merit Shop.



On April 4th, ABC NorCal attended its 2nd annual Introduction to Trades Day with [San Joaquin County Office of Education \(SJCOE\)](#) and [Venture Academy Family of Schools](#) in Stockton. What an exciting opportunity to get invited back again to host 250 1st-5th graders to teach them about construction trades, apprenticeship and the word of the day—safety!



Our ABC NorCal Painting Instructor Zach Philbrick used wood posts cut into “tiny homes” and primary colors in our painting booth.



Our Lead Instructor Luan Huynh and Carpentry Instructor Richard Brown ran our Scissor Lift booth. Students learned about the use of construction equipment, safety on the jobsite and all about the importance of PPE.



[Helix Electric](#) participated and ran our Electrical Theory booth. Students had to work together connecting potatoes with copper wire and switches to make lights turn on.

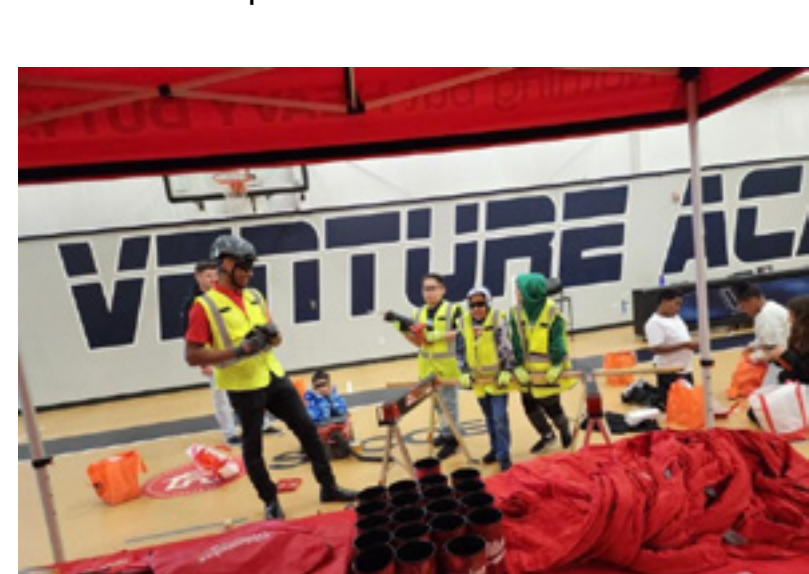
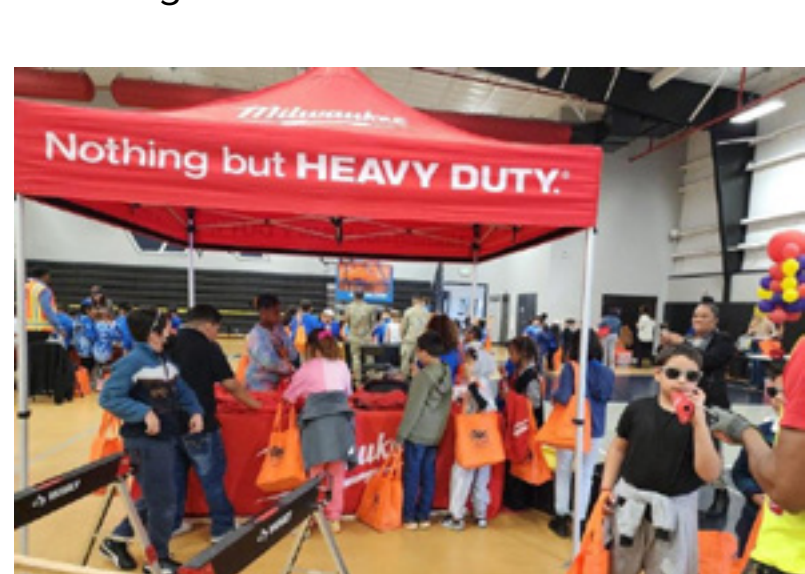


A huge shout-out and thank you to [Patelco Credit Union](#) for showing up and teaching Financial Literacy to students. The students were so excited to learn about money—how to earn it, spend it and save it. This event also gave Patelco an opportunity to strengthen a partnership with SJCOE and look into teaching Financial Education to 12th grade students who are applying for Cal grants. In addition, Patelco was able to inform SJCOE employees about the financial benefits available to them through the credit union. We love to see our partnerships blossom.



A shout-out goes to Stan Johnsen with Ebbert Pacific who ran a ladder safety booth and continued our theme of safety for the day. ABC NorCal partnered with Ebbert Pacific last year to bring these courses into our pre-apprenticeship and safety classes, as well as our giveback program. When you schedule this OSHA safety course with us, ABC NorCal gets money back to do more events like this in our communities.

The MVP of the event was Kenneth McBride with [Milwaukee Tool](#). Milwaukee Tool created a mock job site and assigned different roles like GC, safety crew, cleanup crew, etc. The students were so engaged and committed to their assigned tasks, it was hard to get them to leave the booth when the time was up.



This event could not have been possible without Kim Scott of San Joaquin County Office of Education; Venture Academy school, teachers and volunteers; our ABC NorCal staff and vendors; and the blessing of our San Joaquin County office elected official Troy Brown.