



Press Release
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Construction Apprentices earn top honors at Local Craft Competition

November 5, 2016 (Livermore, CA) – On Saturday, November 5, 2016, Associated Builders and Contractors Northern California (ABC NorCal) held its 2nd annual Craft Competition to determine who would represent Northern California at the ABC National Craft Championships (NCC) in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida in 2017.

Nine talented ABC NorCal apprentices participated in the grueling six-hour, blueprint-to-final-product, trade specific skills test; one competed in carpentry, six competed in electrical, and two competed in painting. Local construction professionals judged the final projects and determined who would go on to the national competition.

“The level of skill demonstrated by our competitors is impressive,” said ABC NorCal Electrical Instructor, Jim Kash. “They represent the future of our industry and set the bar high when it comes to safety, quality and creativity.”

ABC NorCal’s state and federally approved apprenticeship programs train more than 300 individuals annually in five trades: carpentry, construction craft laborer, electrical, painting and plumbing.

“We are proud to invest in the growth and development of the next generation of skilled construction professionals,” said ABC NorCal President & CEO, Michele Daugherty. “The future of our industry depends on our ability to attract and retain talented individuals. These types of competitions recognize outstanding achievement at every career level and promote life-long learning.”

Congratulations to the 2016 ABC NorCal Craft Champion Winners:

Jeremy Whitecotton- Industrial Electrical, *Pyro-Comm Systems*

Rudy Sanchez- Residential/Commercial Electrical, *Bergelectric Corp.*

Miguel Villa- Carpentry, *Anderson Pacific Engineering Construction, Inc.*

Colton Larson- Painter, *TSV Painting, Inc.*

We would like to recognize our 2016 Craft Champion Finalist:

Seth Lewis- Industrial Electrical, *Helix Electric, Inc.*

Saepate Vasa- Residential/Commercial Electrical, *Helix Electric, Inc.*

Jeff Stanley- Residential/Commercial Electrical, *RK Electric*

Casey Fargo- Residential/Commercial Electrical, *Helix Electric, Inc.*

Vanessa Rogers- Residential/Commercial Electrical, *Helix Electric, Inc.*

Brian Larson- Painter, *TSV Painting, Inc.*

About ABC NorCal

ABC Northern California Chapter (ABC NorCal) is a trade association founded on the merit shop philosophy and dedicated to serving construction professionals from Fresno to the Oregon border. Our mission: To promote free enterprise by advancing the merit shop philosophy in the construction industry through education, advocacy and business services. To learn more visit www.abcnorcal.org.