

Wonderful Education









Wonderful Education

The Wonderful Company takes an active role in improving education in the communities where our employees live and work. We believe in a holistic approach to learning, starting with preschool and continuing through elementary school, middle school, high school, and college. A vigorous career prep program, summer camps, arts education, and college scholarships are all part of our offerings.

Since a successful education is a contract between students, parents and schools, we also fund three programs for parent engagement through their children's school years.

A growing and thriving team of world-class committed educators supports, guides, and nurtures students and their families throughout California's Central Valley.

OUR PURPOSE

Wonderful Education's core purpose is to provide the youth in the Central Valley with experiences and opportunities that lead them to a promising future.

EDUCATION IS THE KEY

Education is the key to improving the trajectory of families in the Central Valley for generations to come. By increasing college completion rates and inspiring students to achieve greatness, we can prepare them for high-paying, local jobs, and develop the leaders of tomorrow.

55,000 STUDENTS COUNT ON US

We serve 55,000 students in California's Central Valley. From Bakersfield to Fresno, Wonderful Education partners with educational leaders, colleges, and teachers across 24 school districts to improve educational opportunities and enhance the quality of life for the children in the Central Valley.

MORE THAN SCHOLARSHIPS

We know that scholarships mean nothing if students aren't prepared for college. That's why our multifaceted approach provides high school and college tutors, summer camps, art programs, college and career prep, parent workshops, school grants, and middle school and preschool programs. Our network advocates for students throughout the system so they can realize their greatest potential.

AN INSPIRING MODEL

The Wonderful Company places tremendous importance on corporate social responsibility. We share our story here in the hope that our success will be emulated and expanded in other industries and areas of the country.











Wonderful Education College Scholarships

The Wonderful Company provides college scholarships of up to \$6,000 per year (renewable for up to five years) and laptops to the children of our employees, the students of Lost Hills, and graduates of our charter school in the Central Valley.

Scholarships are available to students who:

- Graduate from high school with at least a 2.5 GPA.
- Enroll full-time in college.
- Maintain a 2.0 college GPA.

SCHOLARSHIPS ARE ONLY THE BEGINNING

We advocate for students throughout their college experience:

- Personalized guidance from one-on-one case managers
- On-campus tutoring and group study sessions
- Networking activities and opportunities

PRE-COLLEGE PREP

Throughout high school, our Student Advancement Coordinators provide college and career counseling:

- One-on-one support with college application process
- 30 college tours in California
- Weekly homework labs
- Home visits
- Parent workshops
- SAT/ACT test prep

A BRIGHTER FUTURE

We aim to increase the number of students on the road to success by helping them:

- Graduate high school, meeting all college entrance requirements.
- Enroll in a college or university.
- Earn a two- or four-year college degree.
- Graduate college with minimal debt.

PROMISING RESULTS

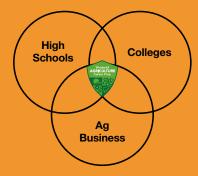
- Our four-year college enrollment has increased from 46% to more than 80%.
- Our college retention is 90% (the national average for first-generation college students is just 67%).



Wonderful Agriculture Career Prep

BRINGING HIGH SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND INDUSTRY TOGETHER

Wonderful Agriculture Career Prep aligns high schools, colleges and industry to create a curriculum that helps high school students and communities thrive.



THE SKILLS GAP

Youth unemployment in the Central Valley is 37%. Yet hundreds of high-tech jobs remain unfilled because they require a college degree. Wonderful Ag Career Prep is designed to increase the number of college graduates, reduce unemployment, and generate local economic growth.

CAREER PATHWAYS

To meet the demands of future jobs, our students are provided three pathways:

- Plant Science
- Ag Business Management
- Ag Mechanics

PLANTING THE SEEDS OF SUCCESS

- Students take college course throughout high school.
- They visit orchards and high-tech processing facilities, and work with farm machinery.
- They learn to see the farm as a business.
- Paid internships provide career-building experience.
- Students graduate high school with an associate degree.
- They can enter four-year college as a junior (a huge savings for families).
- Grads can find skilled Ag jobs with average starting salaries from \$35K to \$50K.
- All for free.













Wonderful College Prep Academy

WHERE STUDENTS ARE VALUED AND TUITION IS FREE

Wonderful College Prep is a free charter school in Delano with state-of-the-art science facilities serving grades 6–12, with an elementary school coming soon. We are dedicated to helping every student excel in school, prepare for college, and find a well-paying career.

SMALL CLASSES

Our class sizes average just 25 students or fewer per teacher so students get the attention they need. Our longer school day and extended school year give our students an added edge.

OUTSTANDING SUCCESS

- In one year, our students averaged two years of growth in both reading and math.
- 100% of our 2015 graduating seniors were accepted to college, and at least 65% were accepted into a four-year college.
- Our college-going rate for graduating seniors is more than triple the rate of neighboring school districts.

TWO PATHWAYS

- Students choose between two college pathways—liberal arts or agriculture.
- All students earn 40–60 units of free college credit.
- Every student studies art or learns to play a musical instrument.
- After-school options include basketball, soccer, softball, robotics, and more.
- \$16,000–\$24,000 in scholarships for students who maintain a GPA of 2.5 or better.
- Students who receive a scholarship also receive a free laptop at graduation.



Wonderful Preschool

PRESCHOOL MATTERS

Low-income children who attend high-quality preschool programs are 40% less likely to be held back a grade, 30% more likely to graduate from high school, and 100% more likely to graduate from college.

Early childhood education provides academic and social skills that pave the way to a great future. To support our working parents, our preschools are open 12–14 hours a day, year-round.

Wonderful Education has exceptional preschools in Avenal and Lost Hills. Both are staffed with supportive teachers who go above and beyond for their students. Avenal is nationally accredited. Soon we'll be opening preschools to serve the children of employees from our Wonderful Pistachios & Almonds plant in Lost Hills, and our Wonderful Citrus plant in Delano.

READY TO START

We also partner with the Wasco, Maple, and Lost Hills school districts to support *Ready to Start*, a four-week "kinder boot camp." The program helps children who haven't attended preschool transition into kindergarten.





Summer Camps

We know that staying active and engaged through the summer keeps kids excelling right into the new school year. So The Wonderful Company has created dozens of camps serving 2,300 kids ages 6 through 18, and the results are positive:

- 92% are glad they participated.
- 94% are more motivated to do well in school.
- 93% learned new things.
- 91% had fun.

SUMMER OPTIONS

We offer day camps, weeklong camps, and overnight camps on college campuses. Students study STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), arts and humanities. They learn about high-tech Ag careers. They take college courses and, most importantly, they form lifelong bonds and have fun in a safe, structured environment.

HAPPY CAMPERS

- "The thing I liked most was being able to learn about different careers in agriculture... to see what my options are for careers in my future."
- -Wonderful Agriculture Career Prep Camper
- "I liked taking college classes because even though it was a little hard... it still helped me learn about what it's like to be in college and how hard it could be."
- -Wonderful Ag Launch Camper
- "I really liked that Wonderful Education is absolutely dedicated in supporting us through the college transition and gave us tools to plan and prepare."
- -Scholars Retreat Camper

Arts Education

Through our funding of *P.S. ARTS* and *Turnaround Arts California*, we provide arts education in dance, visual arts, music, and theater arts. *P.S. ARTS* programs contribute to a creative and aspirational school climate, involve parents and the community, and provide culturally relevant learning in and through the arts. Launched by the White House in 2012, *Turnaround Arts* is designed to help schools address the pervasive and persistent problems found in high-poverty, chronically underperforming schools through high-quality arts education.

We believe that an art-filled education helps students develop imagination, reasoning, and self-discipline. And, our programs reach 4,500 students across a dozen schools.

ART WORKS

- 90% of art students are meeting grade-level proficiency in the visual and performing arts.
- 90% of teachers reported gains in art students' creativity, critical thinking skills, and vocabulary.
- **90%** of teachers reported gains in art students' English Language and literacy.









School Grants

Our grants support college awareness, art programs, STEM projects and engagement with parents. Our goal is to invest in educators whose ideas inspire their students.

WISHES GRANTED

Since 1999, we have awarded more than 1,300 school grants totaling \$3.5 million at 70 Central Valley schools. Here are just a few of our success stories:

- One school developed a robotics lab to prepare and inspire underrepresented groups, such as girls and minorities, to pursue careers in engineering.
- One teacher introduced an award-winning spoken word program in his English class. He took all of his students to Los Angeles to participate in a statewide spoken word competition. One of his students was awarded "Best of Show"!
- Another teacher utilized 3D printers to help students understand how they can translate their creativity and passion for design into technical careers such as engineering.
- One high school now offers an intensive child and parent college-readiness program to ensure ninth graders are on track for college.

Parent Engagement

Because home is a child's first classroom, support for parents is critical to students' academic progress. The Wonderful Company funds three programs empowering more than 1,000 parents across 28 schools.

Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors, a 10-week program that shows parents with children under 5 how to support their child's social and language development at home.

Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE) offers an intensive nine-week parent engagement course so parents with school-aged children can work collaboratively with teachers to help students become college-ready.

Families in Schools works with Wonderful Education so we can help our high school parents see the value of a college education and understand the college application process.



Wonderful education...

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