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Durango High School Marketing and DECA Program Announces Spring 2015 Awards and Officer Positions for 2015-16.

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Wednesday, May 27, 2015-- Durango High School DECA recognized two business people as 2015 Friends of DECA. Each year, the Friends of DECA is awarded to two individuals in the Durango Community. This year, the award recipients are Julie Snider-Popp and Kyle Hartley.

On Tuesday, May 5, 2015 Julie Snider-Popp, Durango 9R School District Public Information Officer and Marketing Director, was recognized for her outstanding work in raising DECA awareness in the Durango community. "Popp coordinated with the Durango Herald to spread the word about what Durango High School DECA is all about. She was our personal representative in the district offices and we couldn't have been as successful if it wasn't for Popp." Charlie McClung, a member of Durango High School DECA, along with many other members were pleased with her efforts.

Mason Stetler and Jared Webster conducted a research project that analyzed the effects of visual merchandising on Duranglers Flies and Supplies, a local fly fishing outfitter. Kyle Hartley, manager of Duranglers, assisted the two students, helping judge potential window displays for the store, helped implement the design into the window, and consistently assisting the DECA club in marketing strategies. Stetler and Webster's project placed 2nd at the Colorado State DECA conference and was recognized at the international conference in Orlando, FL. "Without Kyle's help, our project would have never been able to compete at the state or national levels" said Webster and Stetler. Hartley received the Friends of DECA award on Wednesday, April 29th, 2015.

In addition to their support of Durango DECA, Julie Snider-Popp and Kyle Hartley are active members in the Durango community.

Durango High School DECA also qualified six Durango High School students to compete at the International DECA conference in Orlando, Florida April 24-29, 2015: Charley McClung, Jared Webster, Jenna Engelken, Joaquin Valdez, Abby Scott, and Mason Stetler. The DECA International Career Development Conference was the pinnacle of competition where nearly 18,000 of DECA's 210,000 members vied for international honors. The students competed well while gaining invaluable experiences during their time in Orlando. In addition to career-based competition, DECA members engaged in leadership academies and networking opportunities with more than 200 internationally recognized businesses.

Durango High School DECA also announced its Officer Leadership Team for 2015-16 at its annual awards ceremony held at the Lion's Den May 18, 2015. The officer candidates were selected from a series of challenges including their DECA track record, one-on-one interviews and a performance challenge. The officers are Jared Webster, Joaquin Valdez, Charley McClung, Mason Stetler, Paxton Scott, Abby Scott, Violet Witchel, and Jenna Engelken.



## DECA

Community business members, parents and students wanting to become involved with DECA are invited to contact advisor Dave Dillman at 970-259-1630, ext 2247, or via email at [ddillman@durango.k12.co.us](mailto:ddillman@durango.k12.co.us). More information on DHS DECA can be found at [www.durangohsmarketing.weebly.com](http://www.durangohsmarketing.weebly.com).



Caption 1: Joaquin Valdez (left) and Charley McClung (right) award Julie Snyder-Popp a 2015 Friend of DECA award at the May 5, 2015 Durango 9-R Board of Education Meeting



Caption 2: Durango High School DECA members at DECA's International Career Development Conference April 28, 2015 in Orlando, FL. Pictured from left: Joaquin Valdez, Charles McClung, Jared Webster, Mason Stetler, Abby Scott, Jenna Engelken.



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## DECA

Caption 3: Durango High School DECA announced the Officer Leadership Team for 2015-16 School year at the



Lion's Den during their May 18, 2015 award ceremony. Pictured from left with next years' grade level: Jared Webster (12), Joaquin Valdez (12), Charley McClung (12), Mason Stetler (12), Paxton Scott (10), Abby Scott (10), Violet Witchel (10), and Jenna Engleken (11)