

New Youth Technology Grants from Triangle Communications

Triangle Communications has established a new program to benefit the varied youth clubs and organizations within their service area.

The Triangle Communications Youth Club/Organization Technology Grant program offers monetary support to youth clubs/organizations in the Triangle service area.

Eligible youth clubs include 4-H, BPA, DECA, FCCLA, FFA, HOSA, SkillsUSA, Boys & Girls Club, and more. Local chapter of club/organization must have majority of members within in the Triangle Communications service area.

Funds can be used for Science, Technology, Engineering or Math related projects. Up to \$500 Grants are available.

The deadline to apply is February 1, 2018.

Visit www.itstriangle.com/education-support/youth-club-organization-technology-grant for more details and to apply.

Prepping for Financial Literacy/Personal Finance? Kickoff 2018 with NGPF's Semester Course

Teaching personal finance next semester? At NexGen Personal Finance (www.ngpf.org) we've done the planning and prep work for you with our Semester Course.

You may have seen the release in August, but for those of you looking for a recap, NGPF's Semester Course takes the best that NGPF offers and condenses it into 90, short and sweet 45-minute lessons that are ready to implement in your classroom. Whether you are planning on teaching a full, semester long course or you want to incorporate personal finance into your classroom in smaller chunks, the Semester Course is the perfect option for you.

The course features:

- Diagnostic, Midterm, and Final Exams
- 10 Unit Tests
- 1-2 summative assessment options for each unit
- Final Project
- Your favorite NGPF resources like Data Crunches, The Fine Print, Question of the Day, and more

Start exploring the course today by checking out the resources in NGPF's Google Drive:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1HGn4sV8XPrju_B4m20MtCLg1NDnoZdB9gu9wRsiCLYQ/edit.

Interested in learning more about the Semester Course? Access our archived [One-Semester Course Webinar](#) where Jessica outlines the Semester Course in detail. If podcasts are more your style, tune in to hear "[Tim Talks to... Jessica & Sonia about the One-Semester Course.](#)"

For more details and resources, check out www.ngpf.org.

Spring Time in the Rockies with ACTE Region V—Colorado Springs, April 2018

Region V is the [Association for Career and Technical Education](#)'s (ACTE) western region and the 2018 Region V Conference will be held just down the road in Colorado Springs.

The [2018 ACTE Region V Conference](#) will take place April 11-14 at the [Cheyenne Mountain Resort](#) in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Registration for the [2018 ACTE Region V Conference](#) is \$425 and includes most meals during the conference. Hotel rooms can be booked directly at the [Cheyenne Mountain Resort](#) for \$144 per night plus tax.

View the [Schedule at a Glance](#) as you plan your travel.

If you are interested in presenting, at the [2018 ACTE Region V Conference](#), a Speaker Proposal can be completed at

https://docs.google.com/a/jeffcoschools.us/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc6ARLjJHeG6h2Gtvdfl7HTw3h3F5EEIAkulsJK5IKcgclmg/viewform?usp=sf_link. The deadline for submitting a proposal is February 1, 2018.

For more information about Region V and the 2018 Region V Conference, visit www.acteonline.org/regionv.

Please note, the 2019 ACTE Region V Conference will be hosted by [Montana ACTE](#) and in Bozeman, April 2019.

Head East for the 2018 NBEA Convention—March 27-31 on Baltimore's Waterfront

Register now for the [National Business Education Association](#) (NBEA) [2018 Convention & Trade Show](#) in Baltimore, March 27-31, 2018. You won't want to miss this cutting-edge, energizing convention focused on the advancement of business education.

Early-Bird registration for the 2018 NBEA Annual Convention ends March 7, 2018.

The NBEA 2018 Convention will provide over 70 exciting and cutting-edge educational sessions, more than 20 technology workshops that will expand specific skills and introduce new technology, and general session speakers who will educate and inspire.

In addition, the Business Education Research Conference will be held in conjunction with the NBEA 2018 Convention. Do not miss this amazing opportunity to enhance your knowledge and skills as a business educator, take part in networking opportunities, and be challenged to return to your classroom ready to educate, empower, and energize your students.

With more than 130 attractions, museums, historic sites, and performing arts groups, Baltimore promises something for everyone. From "The Star-Spangled Banner" to African American history, to The Baltimore Basilica (America's first cathedral), there's something exciting around every corner.

NBEA is excited to offer pre- and post-convention tours as well. Come early and stay late to be involved in all that the NBEA 2018 Annual Convention has to offer.

Visit the NBEA 2018 Convention site (www.nbea.org/newsite/conferences/convention/convention.html) to access the complete convention details, including general convention information, session descriptions, professional development seminars, technology workshop descriptions, and information on pre- and post-convention tours.

Deadline for Montana ACTE's CTE PSA Contest for Students is January 19

What is the goal? To promote career and technical education by creating a video public service announcement (PSA) incorporating the CTE Month logo and 2018 tagline, "Celebrate Today, Own Tomorrow!"

Who can enter? The contest is open to secondary and postsecondary CTE students in film and video production classes or in other CTE courses. Students may enter as individuals or as a group.

What do I win? Montana ACTE will announce the winning PSA by **February 1, 2018**, and will notify the winners individually. The school CTSO that the winning student or team attends will receive \$500. The school that the second-place student or team attends will receive \$250. First- and second-place videos will be publicized on the Internet through Montana ACTE social media channels and shared with Montana ACTE's members to use during CTE Month in their schools and local areas. Winning PSA will be recognized at state CTSO events.

Note: Winning entries must meet a score of a minimum of 70 to be considered.

What's required?

--Video entries must be 29 seconds in length.

--Entries must incorporate the CTE Month 2018 [logo](#) and 2018 tagline into the PSA video. [Email us](#) if you would like to request a different image format.

--Entries must incorporate the following message, presented as text on-screen and/or spoken by talent: "Learn more about career and technical education at www.ctemonth.org", and must display the CTE Month web address on screen: www.ctemonth.org.

--Successful entries will NOT say "learn more about Montana ACTE or ACTE" or reference the Association for Career and Technical Education by name in the PSA. The videos are not intended to be an advertisement for ACTE, but a PSA for career and technical education.

--Successful entries will use no other logos or web addresses in PSAs.

--Entries that contain music, images, or other copyrighted media must be accompanied by proof that the creators of the entry have the expressed permission of the original copyright holder.

--Submissions must adhere to the technical specifications listed below.

Submitting your PSA entry:

--PSA submissions must be completed by **January 19, 2018 at 5 p.m. EST.**

--Sound cannot be over 0 dBFS.

--Videos must be submitted in .mp4 or .mov format.

--Videos must be in 16:9 aspect ratio.

--PSAs can be submitted in standard or high definition.

--In addition to the 29 seconds of video content, please include at the beginning of the video 5 seconds of black, followed by 5 seconds of bars and tones, and then a slate with the title, the name of your school and the year, **2018** (names of video creators and participants optional.) The slate should be on the screen long enough for it to be read comfortably by viewers.

--PSA are to be submitted via [Dropbox](#). Participants should create a Dropbox account free of charge, upload their submission, and email the link to mbranger@huntley.k12.mt.us.

--Participants must submit a [talent release form](#) from each participant whose image and/or voice is used in the PSA. Students under 18 must have a parent's or guardian's signature on the form.

--To finalize a submission, email the video link and talent release forms to mbranger@huntley.k12.mt.us. A phone number and mailing address for at least one contact must also be provided. This contact can be the educator responsible for the students who submitted the video and the mailing address can be the school's.

Who will be judging my PSA? PSAs will be judged by the Membership/Public Relations Committee of Montana ACTE, who will evaluate submissions according to an impartial rubric. The three highest scoring entries will be shown to Montana ACTE's Executive Board of Directors prior to 2018 Montana ACTE Fall Institute, and winners will be notified before the conference. All entrants are encouraged to share their PSA with their community, school and friends.

What's the fine print? Montana ACTE retains the copyright on any submitted material and reserves the right to use the material in any way or format it sees fit. Montana ACTE is not responsible for lost, damaged, incorrectly encoded, incorrectly uploaded, mislabeled or misdirected entries. Entries will not be returned and will become the property of Montana ACTE. Entries cannot be used for any commercial activity.

Additionally, your use of the CTE Month 2018 logo and tagline for this PSA does not authorize you to use it for any other purpose. If you would like to use the logo and tagline for anything else, please read our [Logo Use and Restriction Agreement](#) and follow all regulations therein. If you would like to use the logo for a purpose *not* covered in that agreement, [email us](#) for permission.

Do you have any tips for my PSA? The first step for making a great PSA is to learn about career and technical education (see the next section)! In addition, the winning videos for the CTE Month 2018 Video PSA Contest should strive to:

- Engage and inform about CTE in Montana.
- Show that CTE leads to a successful career for Montana students.
- Show the role of CTE in a strong national and state economy.
- Depict a variety of CTE fields in Montana.
- Depict the diversity of students involved in CTE in Montana.
- Show CTE as relevant to the general public
- Incorporate the CTE Month 2018 logo and tagline, the CTE Month web site address and the message about CTE Month as defined above (see the "What's required?" section above).
- Be technically well-made and suitable for broadcast on the internet.

How can I learn more about CTE?

Learn what CTE is and what kinds of courses it encompasses with ACTE's "[What is CTE?](#)" page and our [Fact Sheets](#):

- Learn about the effectiveness of CTE in preparing students for further education and careers.
- Learn how investment in CTE yields positive results for communities in Montana and around the country.
- Think about the role of CTE in the state economy: CTE students grow up to become highly skilled technicians, medical professionals, IT specialists, businesspeople, engineers and more. The career fields that CTE students prepare for are the career fields that keep our state and nation growing.

Can educators help with their students' projects?

Educators may advise students, but should not take a significant role in creating the PSAs. For more information or questions about submissions, please contact Mark Branger at mbranger@huntley.k12.mt.us or call 967-2540 x360.

\$1000 529 College Savings Scholarship Opportunity

The EVERFI Scholarship Contest has begun! Take advantage of our Financial Literacy and Career Exploration resources, provided at **no cost** by generous national sponsors, and your students will have the opportunity to submit an entry into the contest.

Students who complete either [FutureSmart](#), a 6th-8th Financial Literacy course, or [Endeavor](#), a 6-9 STEM Career Exploration course, are eligible to win! All entries must be [submitted here](#) by **January 19, 2018**.

Reach out to Sean Thomas, stthomas@everfi.com, for more information about how to [register](#) and get students started!

Fun Facts and Trivia

Numbats are small marsupials that look a little like squirrels.

Numbats are one of the rare marsupials that do not have a pouch.

Numbats can be found only in the southwestern parts of Australia.

Numbats have a pointed head and sticky tongue, designed for feeding on termites; besides termites, numbats eat ants and other insects.

A numbat's body is covered with red-brownish fur with white stripes on their back

Numbats are different than most marsupials as they do not eat plants, instead, they eat termites.

Numbats cannot destroy termite mounds; instead, they search for the secret entrances into the mounds, and wait for termites to appear.

A numbat can eat up to 20,000 termites per day, which equals 10% of its own weight.

Even though females do not have pouch, babies spend first couple of months of their life attached to the mother's belly. Instead of pouch, long hairs on the belly protect babies.

Numbats are diurnal. They sleep during the night and are awake in the day.

Numbats are the only Australian marsupial that is only active during the day and they have very large territories.

Numbats live in hollow logs or dig burrows under the ground.

Issues of the Wednesday Reader are archived on the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) website at www.mbea.info. The Wednesday Readers are under the Newsletter section and listed most-recent first.

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"You don't make decisions because they are easy; you don't make them because they are cheap; you don't make them because they're popular; you make them because they're right." ~Rev. Theodore Hesburgh