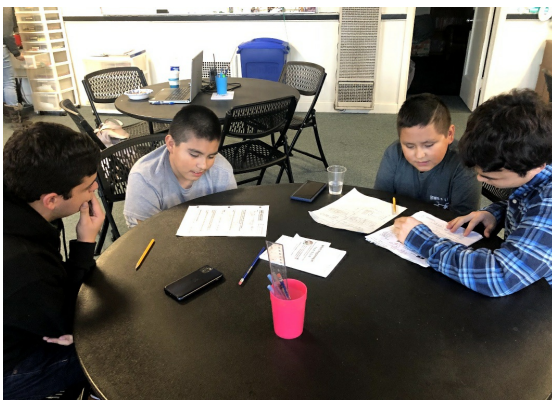
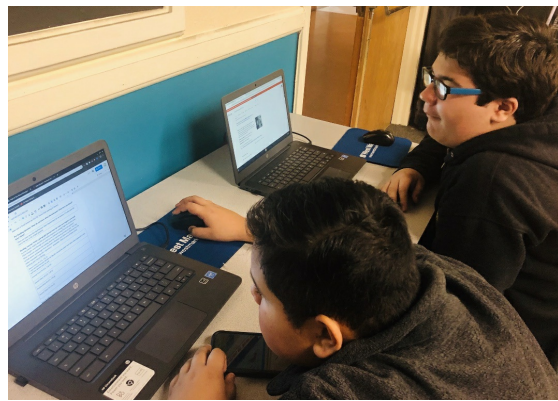




Middle School Program

Leer en Español

Youth N.O.W.'s middle school program is back and running after winter break! We welcomed a total of **50 students** for the new semester. They were greeted with warm smiles as well as 10 brand new Chromebooks! It was incredible to see their excitement as they entered the Learning Center and saw them for the first time. We are grateful to the fundraising campaign that was run by a community member to make this possible. The Learning Center started off very busy with students needing help for their science fair experiments. Luckily, we had Monte Vista Christian School's National Honor Society students there to help from the start.



Recreation is not just fun and games, Willie Bobo always makes sure the students are learning respect, self-discipline, self-regulation and teamwork all while they play their favorite sports and activities. We are excited to announce we will be partnering with Guitars not Guns this semester and offering an eight week guitar lesson class; the most exciting part is that at the end of the eight weeks, the students get to keep the guitars!

Youth N.O.W. also welcomed a new staff member to the team! Antonia, a former volunteer, not only makes sure every



student enjoys some delicious food but, she started teaching a group of students how to knit as part of an enrichment activity. Once the students are done hand knitting their blankets they will be given the choice on where their blanket will be donated to. This is only the beginning of a new semester and we can't wait to see what is still to come!

What students have to say:



"I like Rec because you get to play sports with your friends."

- Kevin, 8th grade



"My favorite part of Youth N.O.W. is learning new things from the tutors. They give cool advice and teach us art and stuff."

- Bianka, 7th grade



"I like the Learning Center because the tutors and staff are always helpful with our homework."

- Vincent, 8th grade

Visit our
Website

Thank You!

A huge THANK YOU to Caroline's Non-Profit Thrift Shop! It was an honor to be one of the 26 local nonprofits to receive funding for providing quality services and programs to our most vulnerable youth. The \$15,000 awarded to Youth N.O.W. will help fund student accessibility to up-to-date IT support and school supplies, along with sustaining enrichment classes and quality meals for the students in our middle & high school programs.

[Learn more](#)



Students of the Month:



Alvin Martinez
7th grade
E.A. Hall Middle School

Alvin Martinez has been selected as our Student of the Month! Alvin demonstrates the core values of Youth N.O.W.; respect, integrity, collaboration, excellence, and community. We have seen a tremendous growth in his academics, as well as his willingness to engage in all areas of the program. Alvin is open to give something new a try even if it is out of his comfort zone. We admire his initiative to seek help and communicate his needs to the Youth N.O.W. staff and tutors. Alvin always shows respect towards his peers, staff, volunteers and everyone he meets. He has been a joy to have at Youth N.O.W. and we look forward to what the future holds for him. Youth N.O.W. is extremely proud to honor Alvin Martinez as our Student of the Month for February!



Stephanie Valdivia
10th grade
Watsonville High School

Stephanie Valdivia has been selected as our Student of the Month! Stephanie has been with Youth N.O.W. for a number of years and continues to show incredible dedication to her academic work. Her commitment to her education has inspired others in the Learning Center to follow in her footsteps. Stephanie is always one of the first to arrive and work vigorously-clocking in an outstanding 120 hours in the Learning Center last semester! Always open to the opportunities Youth N.O.W. has to offer, Stephanie has also participated in several Coffee House activities like our socials, field trips, and every day enrichments. She has always been a joy to have at Youth N.O.W., and we are eager to see what the future holds for her. Youth N.O.W. is proud to honor Stephanie Valdivia as our Student of the Month for February!

Upcoming Events:

Guitar Lessons

Every Wednesday from
2-4pm at HS site

High School Social

Juego de Baloncesto
(Sign-up with Stephanie)
Thursday, February 20th
from 5:30-9pm (tentative)
at Kaiser Permanente Arena

Family Night

Thursday, February 20th
from 5:30-7:30pm
at 15 Madison St.

