



Hands-on Learning: Big Impacts

Some teams earn recognition for their schools by winning football trophies. Others, by winning music contests. But last month, a team of students at Rogers High School in Puyallup brought home statewide 1st place award for building a house.

Rogers HS wasn't the only Pierce County school to shine at the CTE Showcase of Skills in Olympia: Bates Technical College scored the "Model Home" recognition for their impeccable design, and the Pierce County Skills Center also completed an expertly-crafted house.

"It's remarkable that we have so much talent right here in Pierce County in an industry we know is growing," said Linda Nguyen, CEO of WorkForce Central. "We couldn't be more proud of our local students for their successes in Olympia last month."

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Executive Director of the
Washington State
Workforce Board



In January, students at 20 schools across the state began building tiny homes from blueprints, instructions and a \$2,500 materials stipend. On March 27, they gathered in Olympia to apply final touches and watch as their houses were adjudicated. Even with the same set of instructions, each house developed its own personality, and best of all? The homes will now house homeless families in Seattle.

"When students tackle hands-on, relevant projects, they learn better and more deeply," said Eleni Papadakis, Executive Director of the Washington State Workforce Board, in an editorial published by The Olympian. "This is truly a real-world opportunity for CTE students from across the state to show what they can do, while making a real difference in the lives of homeless people."

"The real winners are the people who won't have to spend the night in the cold because of the hard work of these students," said Nguyen.

See more photos from the event at <https://www.facebook.com/CTEshowcaseofskills/> or on Twitter using the hashtag #CTEshowcase.

