

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Walden West honored with Best of Saratoga award

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**SAN JOSE, CA** – Walden West, the Santa Clara County Office of Education's environmental education center, has been selected as the recipient of the 2014 Best of Saratoga award in the category of Special Interest Schools/Instruction.

Honored by Best of Saratoga for successful communication and exemplary marketing of its signature educational programs, Walden West has provided residential environmental science education to Santa Clara County's fifth- and sixth-grade students for more than 60 years. In accordance with its mission to empower the children of Santa Clara County to develop a lifelong passion for science, engineering and environmental stewardship, more than 8,000 students visit Walden West each school year, taking advantage of programs that are hands-on, standards-rich and that use the outdoors to teach science and sustainability concepts.

The Abby Sobrato Science and Sustainability Center and Walden West summer camps and backpacking trips provide additional outdoor experiences to more than 2,000 children each year.

The Best of Saratoga Award Program honors the achievements of local businesses throughout the Saratoga area, with the goal of recognizing their contributions to the community at large.