

President's Message - Kate Miller



Hey, District 2! The Board has been hard at work so far this year bringing you the all the events, connections, and educational opportunities possible. There is so much to talk about and so little space, so let me give you the highlights!

D2 kicked off the fall season in September with our annual Equipment Expo & Rodeo, at Cosumnes CSD's Rotary Grove at Elk Grove Regional Park. With over 300 Park Professionals and Vendors in attendance and more than 6 agencies competing in the rodeo, it was another successful event! Congratulations to the City of Roseville for taking home the Championship Belt & defending their 2023 title!

In October, your D2 Board lived up to #doing2much! Starting the month off at Sacramento State University with the first Student Outreach meet and greet of the year, that included Board Members & Parks and Recreation Professionals from the Sacramento Region hosting roundtables with 25+ students from the Department of Recreation, Parks, and Tourism. This outreach event brought many connections and opportunities to speak with future leaders in our industry, while helping advance our profession. We are looking forward to the

next Student meet and greeting February with Chico State University! Following this event, the Board and fellow Parks & Recreation Professionals volunteered their time to support two Service Projects from D2's Doing Good 2gether Program submissions: the City of Sacramento's Historic City Cemetery cleaning and North Highlands Recreation and Park District's "Paint the Parks" initiative at Brock Park. Both service projects made significant improvements and impact to their communities and left those of us who volunteered feeling energized and connected. D2 finished up the month by hosting the 2nd day in our Lunch 'n Learn Series: Activity Guide Swap 'n Share; where 30 professionals came together to discuss and share all the organizational triumphs and challenges associated with creating our beloved Activity Guides! If you missed this one, do not worry! Our next Lunch 'n Learn topic is Active Aging, Events, Trips and Partnerships, happening on December 4th at the Neil Orchard Senior Center, so make sure to mark your calendars!

Coming up next is our General Membership Meeting on Monday, December 9th from 3 – 5pm and this year, will be one you and your team will not want to miss as we are taking it to TopGolf in Roseville! December also brings more cheer in D2 with NCAMA LGI/T review classes, the D2 Administrator's Section meeting, the Active Agers Lunch 'n Learn, and our Coffee Conversations meet up taking place all before the Holidays! Do not miss out on joining the D2 Board in 2025 at the 3rd annual Park Forum in Roseville, at YTRS' Rec Cloud, at the Awards and Installation Banquet or at CPRS Conference in Sacramento!

Wow, that is a lot, I know! But what opportunities are still available? I am so glad you asked! Elections for available positions on the District 2 Board are open for applications. We want your experience, expertise, leadership, knowledge, passion, and drive to join us on the Board to help make it all happen. Don't forget to vote this coming January for all District, Section & State Board candidates!! Also, D2 Student Scholarships and the Professional Development Grant are open for applications now through December 13th. So do not wait – submit your application for a chance at FREE money! Finally, opening in December is our Awards Program. This program recognizes excellence of D2 agencies and individuals that publicize, develop, and manage programs, and parks and facilities that align with the Parks Make Life Better brand message. Submit nominations for one or all five of the award categories: J.R. Needy Professional, Facility Design & Park Planning, Agency Showcase Marketing for Digital and Print, Recreation & Community Program, and the Champion of the Community. I cannot wait to see your submissions.

Last, but most importantly, I challenged my board to look for and share ways we can make an impact, whether in our communities, our agencies, through a lunch 'n learn, a scholarship or through connecting with other professionals at our events or even by providing continuous opportunities to members. And I challenge YOU to do the same! I want to hear from you about the impacts you are making in your communities and agencies. Reach out to me with your stories, to learn more about D2 or for more information on attending a future Board meetings or events at kmiller@southgaterecandpark.net or (916) 422-7610 ext. 17. Find us on Instagram at [cprsdistrict2](https://www.instagram.com/cprsdistrict2), online at [cprsd2.org](https://www.cprsd2.org) and don't forget to use #d2doing2much for a media shout out. Peace, Love & PMLB!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kate Miller".

CPRS Card Framework



In 2023, the CPRS State Board of Directors and Executive team developed a framework of goals to guide the California Park & Recreation Society in meeting the values of its mission statement.

This framework outlines 'what' we aim to achieve, while each pillar describes 'how' we intend to accomplish it.

All CPRS Regions, Districts, Sections, Committees, and staff have a part in moving our association - and our profession - forward. This framework outlines our joint goals to accomplish just that.

Goals will be set collectively, reviewed annually, and celebrated through an annual report.

CPRS STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

ADVANCING CALIFORNIA'S PARK & RECREATION PROFESSION



California Park & Recreation Society

May 2023

For more information visit: <https://www.cprs.org/resources/cprs-positioning/card-framework>

Lunch N' Learns

CPRS D2 Board is excited to host a variety of new educational opportunities through Lunch n' Learns this year! The upcoming Lunch n' Learn is focused on Active Aging, Events, Trips, & Partnerships and will be held in Sacramento at the Neil Orchard Senior Activities Center on December 4th from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. RSVP for this Lunch n' Learn and learn about future events at cprsd2.org/lunch-n-learns

*Lunch will be provided at the upcoming December Lunch n' Learn.



Create **Community**. Advance the **Profession**. Share **Resources**. **Develop** personally and as a leader.

YOUTH & TEEN RECREATION SERVICES (YTRS)

Fall Newsletter 2024

Youth & Teen Recreation Services (YTRS) hosts meetings at a different agency each month to discuss youth, teen, and preschool programming. YTRS also holds events, workshops, and trainings that give recreation professionals the opportunity to network and share ideas, ask questions, and learn from a variety of presenters. Come join us the 1st Thursday of each month from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and stay tuned for all the exciting workshops coming in 2025!

Staff-A-Palooza Recap

Staff-A-Palooza made a triumphant comeback this summer! Agencies played dodgeball, learned about staff burnout, and Cosumnes Community Services District took home the Olympic Gold!



Preschool Rec. Connect Recap

Preschool Rec. Connect gave our preschool educators a chance to learn through play as Sacramento County of Education (SCOE) presented STEM with LEGOS and everyone heard about "Pete the Cat" and his amazing sense of style!



Upcoming YTRS Events:

- December 5: SCOE Training - Multicultural Inclusivity
- January 29: Rec Cloud

Meet the YTRS Steering Committee

Chair: Kourtney Hobart, Sunrise RPD

Co-Chair: Kayla Thayer, North Highlands RPD

Secretary: Stephen Menebroker, Cosumnes CSD

Representative, Public Relations: Alexandra Luong, Sunrise RPD

Representative, Events: Mary Stoakley, Fair Oaks RPD

Representative, Youth Services: Claudia Salcedo-Higareda, City of West Sacramento

Representative, Teen Services: Celeste Torres, City of Sacramento

Representative, Camps: Alyse Pichly, City of Lincoln

Representative, Preschool: Felisa Martell, Sunrise RPD

Representative, Sports: Stephen Menebroker, Cosumnes CSD

District 2 Liaison/Treasurer: Penelope Crouse-Feehan, City of Folsom

Want to get involved?
Learn how by contacting
khobart@sunriseparks.com

northern california Youth and Teen
RECREATION
Services

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AQUATIC MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION UPDATES

Fall Newsletter 2024

Northern California Aquatic Management Association is an organization supporting aquatic professionals and advocates by promoting professional career development, current safety practices, ongoing education, and networking opportunities. Membership is FREE and open to all full-time and part-time aquatics professionals.

Water Polo Tournament Recap

Five NCAMA agencies played for glory, bragging rights, and the coveted Water Polo Trophy! This tournament is a fun, co-ed event and is played using the modern water polo rules. This year our reigning champions, City of West Sacramento, won the trophy yet again. Who will beat West Sacramento next year? This event returns to the Wackford Aquatic Complex on July 29, 2025. It's never too early to start training! Get signed up with the NCAMA email list for news about this fun and engaging Summer event!



Lifeguard Palooza Recap

Seven teams from five Agencies participated in this friendly competition to see who could brag that they have the best lifeguards in the area. Events included rescue skills, swimming relays, and more. Points were also awarded for best spirit! The City of Folsom bested the other teams this year and dethroned last year's winner. Will it be your team on top next year? This event is scheduled to return August 3, 2025. Interested in hosting this event? Reach out to us using the 'Get Involved' link or reach out to a member of the Steering Committee.

Meetings are held bimonthly on the second Thursday of the month from September to May. **Next meeting is January 9, 2025 at the Andy Morin Sports Complex in Folsom.** Please join the NCAMA email list at the link below for information about upcoming meetings and events.

Meet the NCAMA Steering Committee

Chair: Cody Helmer, *City of Sacramento*

Co-Chair: Scott Seeba, *City of Roseville*

District 2 Liaison/Treasurer: Patrick Maridon, *City of Sacramento*

Representative, Events & Trainings: Colin Pitz, *Southgate RPD*

Representative, Events & Trainings: Kendra Barlly, *Cosumnes CSD*

Representative, Events & Trainings: Rachel Schramm, *Cosumnes CSD*

Representative, Communications: Cathryn Cunha, *City of Sacramento*

Secretary: Cynthia Mandel, *City of Folsom*

Member at Large: Brandi Jones, *YMCA of Rollingwood*



Visit our website for the most up-to-date information: www.cprsd2.org/ncama. Join the NCAMA email list for updates on upcoming events and meetings by following [this link](#).

Interested in getting more involved with NCAMA? Fill out [this form](#) for more info about joining the Steering Committee and other opportunities.

EQUIPMENT EXPO HIGHLIGHTS

Fall Newsletter 2024

Rodeo Championship Belt Won!

2024 is coming to a close, and with that, another successful Equipment Expo took place at Elk Grove's newly revamped Rotary Grove.

First, I'd like to thank our committee members, Kate Miller, Nina Sinor, Nicole Lowery, Joey Zaokopny, Heather Schelske, and Eric Dexter, for working tirelessly and setting aside their busy schedules to help make this one of the top events of the year. I'd also like to thank Andre Pichly and Eric Sturgis for supplying tables, chairs, and all the last-minute items needed for the expo, so thank you all.

The Rodeo games were a blast, and again, Roseville defended its title to take home the NEW championship belt! This win makes it back-to-back championships, so congratulations to the City of Roseville. Let's see if they can make it a three-peat next year in 2025.

~Equipment Expo & Rodeo Chair, Jeff Houser

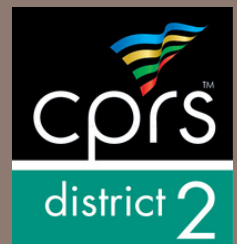


THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

DISTRICT 2
EQUIPMENT EXPO
AND RODEO

A graphic for the District 2 Equipment Expo and Rodeo. It features a central circular logo with a cowboy hat and a boot. The text "DISTRICT 2 EQUIPMENT EXPO AND RODEO" is written inside the circle. The background is green with cactus silhouettes.

@cprsdistrict2
#D2Doing2Much



District 2 established the Doing Good 2Gether annual service project program as an opportunity to give back to an organization or agency within District 2 boundaries that needs support to complete a community improvement project.



This year, D2 was able to support TWO service projects in the month of October. Many volunteers from D2 membership & surrounding community members took time out of their schedules to join us in serving these two agencies and made impactful changes in their communities.

City of Sacramento

Historic City Cemetery Cleaning

Close to 20 volunteers and Board Members, teamed up to help clean headstones at the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery, with Cemetery staff offering spooky stories from visitor experiences & providing background information on the grounds & historical figures buried.



North Highlands Recreation & Parks District

Brock Park "Paint the Parks" Project

Volunteers and Board Members joined North Highland's "Paint the Parks" Initiative at Brock Park by repainting back stops, bleachers and restoring life to the amenities at this community park; transforming this park into a sea of blue from a faded green offered a much needed "face lift" for surrounding neighbors to enjoy.



We would like to thank all the Parks & Rec professionals, students, & community members that came together with the D2 Board to volunteer their time in completing these services for the City of Sacramento & North Highlands Recreation & Park District. Be sure to look at for the 2025 application!

Sarah Valentine

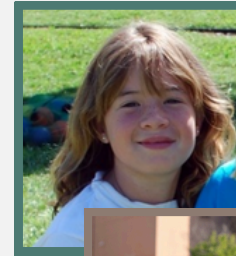
Recreation Specialist City of Folsom Parks & Recreation



Q. What made you choose to enter the field of Parks & Recreation?

My journey in Parks and Recreation began as a Summer Camp Counselor—a full-circle moment, as I had attended the same camp as a child. I always knew it would be an incredible summer job, but it turned into so much more. What started with taking photos and creating Instagram stories to highlight field trips and daily activities quickly evolved into designing signage, capturing event photography, and even creating engaging Reels to promote our programs.

I like to say that Parks and Recreation chose me. Those unforgettable memories I had as a camper sparked a passion for creating opportunities that bring people joy and build connections. Now, I'm dedicated to helping the community experience the same sense of fun, excitement, and belonging that inspired me when I was younger.



Q: What do you consider your biggest accomplishment in the field of Parks & Recreation so far?

In 2023, I had the honor of becoming the first-ever part-time employee to present at a CPRS conference. Being selected to share insights on social media, marketing, graphic design, and more was an incredible milestone in my career. I'm passionate about helping agencies advance because, at the end of the day, we all share the same goal: to provide the best events and programs for our communities.

One of my proudest accomplishments was creating a logo for our 'Social Media Team' a few years ago. The design is a simple yet impactful adaptation of the City of Folsom logo within a camera lens. This branding has been a turning-point—parents and community members are now more comfortable with photography at events, knowing it's tied to our trusted team.

Another initiative I'm proud of is designing custom stickers for every event. These stickers have become a meaningful way to connect with the community after capturing their photos. Instead of just walking away, the stickers create a memorable interaction and leave a lasting impression. It's these small but intentional touches that help build stronger relationships with the people we serve.



Sarah Valentine



Q: What made you get involved with District 2 and how has District 2 helped with accomplishing your goals in the profession?

I first learned about District 2 through my coworkers at the City of Folsom, who mentioned the Jane Adams Award Grant for professional development. Receiving that scholarship was a game-changer—it not only made me a CPRS member but also allowed me to attend the entire CPRS Connections Conference, which was an incredible experience. I've also had the opportunity to contribute by creating logos for their events, which helped me expand my skills beyond my role at the City of Folsom.

I'm deeply grateful to District 2, not just for the scholarship, but for the amazing connections and opportunities it has provided. I've enjoyed attending their events, like the Activity Guide Swap N' Share, and I was honored to present at their Lunch N' Learn on Social Media and Marketing. If you haven't already, I highly recommend checking out their website at cprsd2.org or following them on Instagram @District2. They're a fantastic resource for anyone in the Parks and Recreation field!

Q: What advice do you have for a peer that is trying to decide whether or not to go into the field of Parks & Recreation?

My advice would be to consider your passion for community impact, creativity, and collaboration. Parks and Recreation is about more than just maintaining parks—it's about enriching lives, fostering connections, and creating memorable experiences for people of all ages. If you enjoy problem-solving, teamwork, and having a direct, positive influence on your community, this field can be incredibly fulfilling. At the end of the day seeing smiling faces and helping to create memorable experiences at events, programs, parks, and other facilities is what makes this job rewarding.

*Do you have a suggestion for a Rising Star or someone we should consider featuring?
Email your suggestions to the Director of Public Relations, Frankie Nelson, at fnelson@folsom.ca.us*

SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAMS

Fall Newsletter 2024

District 2 is proud to offer its membership the following scholarship and grant opportunities to help offset costs and assist members in reaching their professional development goals.

2024/2025 Jane H. Adams Professional Development Grant- APPLICATIONS DUE ON DECEMBER 6, 2024

Application Requirements:

1. Applicants must be employed by a CPRS D2 agency.
2. Applicants must demonstrate a dedication to the profession through current and past professional affiliations and involvement.
3. Applicants must explain how they have contributed and or plan to contribute to CPRS D2.
4. Applicants must complete and submit the D2 Jane H. Adams Professional Development
5. Application form, and requested attachments by the posted deadline.

2024/2025 Student Scholarship Program – APPLICATIONS DUE ON DECEMBER 6, 2024

Arvid Pauly Award

Edwin L Z'berg Award

Park Maintenance & Operations Award

Application Requirements:

1. Must live, work, or attend school within District 2 boundaries.
2. Separate complete applications must be submitted for each type of scholarship for which you are applying.
3. Please complete and submit the following items through the google form application:
 - a. Application form (one per type of scholarship).
 - b. Proof of enrollment.
 - c. Copy of unofficial transcripts.
 - d. Narrative which includes why you should receive an award, a brief description of your financial need, your professional accomplishments, and your professional goals (2 pages maximum).
 - e. Headshot photo (for award presentation, if selected).



SCHOLARSHIP/GRANT APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!

For questions or concerns, please contact:
Eric Buechler, CPRS District 2 Vice President
City of Woodland

Eric.Buechler@cityofwoodland.gov | (530) 661-2026

**For more information on scholarships/grants and to apply,
visit cprsd2.org/scholarships-grants!**

The California Park & Recreation Society (CPRS) District 2 Awards Program recognizes the excellence of those agencies and individuals that publicize develop and manage programs, parks and facilities that align with the Parks Make Life Better™ brand message of:

- Building loyalty for parks and recreation services, heightening the profession's bargaining power and independence, stimulating growth, attracting talented people to the profession, involving the public and gaining greater resources and support.
- Raising awareness of the benefits of parks and recreation throughout California and raise the status of parks and recreation as an essential community service.
- Demonstrate the six main message concepts of Gathering Places, Play, Nature, Exercise, Positive Spaces, and forever, all of which are valued today and always.

PROGRAM DETAILS:

- **Awards Program Opens:** Monday, December 2, 2024
- **Eligibility:** All District 2 Parks and Recreation agencies (cities, counties & districts) and individual CPRS members are eligible to submit entries to the CPRS District 2 Awards Program. All programs and projects must have been completed in 2024.
- **Application Notification:** All applicants will receive a notification email announcing the decision of the judging in late February. Entry materials will not be returned.
- **CPRS District 2 Awards & Installation Banquet:** Recipients will receive recognition at the CPRS District 2 Awards & Installation Banquet on February 26, 2025.
- **Multiple Entries:** Agencies may submit more than one entry per category. The award entry fee applies to each award entry; \$25 per award entry.
- **Entry Deadline:** 5:00 pm on Friday, January 24, 2025.

AWARD OPTIONS:

- **J.R. Needy Professional Award**
- **Facility Design & Parks Planning Award**
- **Agency Showcase Marketing Award, Digital & Print**
- **Recreation & Community Program Award**
- **Champion of the Community Award**



APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS NOW OPEN!

For questions or concerns, please contact:
Eric Buechler, CPRS District 2 Vice President
City of Woodland

Eric.Buechler@cityofwoodland.gov | (530) 661-2026

**For more information on scholarships/grants and to apply,
visit cprsd2.org/awards-program!**

Save the Date

District 2
Coffee Cookies & Conversations
 December 5th, 9 AM-10:30 AM
 Gibbons Community Center
 4701 Gibbons Drive
 Carmichael, CA 95608
Wear your best ugly Sweater

CALIFORNIA PARKS & RECREATION SOCIETY
 DISTRICT 2
D2 General Membership Meeting
 MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2024
 3PM-5PM
 TOPGOLF ROSEVILLE
 Tees the Season for D2's General Membership Meeting
APPETIZERS | NETWORKING |
TEAM BUILDING | D2 UPDATES | GOLF
 cprsd2.org | CPRSDistrict2 | cprsdistrict2

CPRSDistrict2
CPRS DISTRICT 2 PRESENTS
PARK FORUM

January 23, 2025 | Maidu Community Center in Roseville, CA

All You Need Is
REC Cloud
 TUESDAY
 JANUARY 28
 9:00AM - 4:00PM
 northern california Youth and Teen RECREATION Services CPRSDistrict2

CONNECT WITH YOUR DISTRICT 2 BOARD!

Fall Newsletter 2024

PRESIDENT: KATE MILLER

Southgate Recreation & Park District
kmiller@southgaterecandpark.net

PRESIDENT-ELECT: NINA SINOR

Cordova Recreation & Park District
nsinor@cordovarpd.gov

VICE PRESIDENT: ERIC BUECHLER

City of Woodland
Eric.Buechler@cityofwoodland.gov

TREASURER: NICOLE LOWERY

Cordova Recreation & Park District
nlowery@cordovarpd.gov

SECRETARY: CHELSEY ADAMS

Mission Oaks Recreation & Park District
cadams@morpd.com

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS:

FRANKIE NELSON

City of Folsom
fnelson@folsom.ca.us

DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING:

JUSTIN DOUTHIT

City of Yuba City
jdouthit@yubacity.net

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION:

ANDRE PICHLY

Cosumnes Community Services District
andrepichly@cosumnescsd.gov

AQUATIC SECTION REPRESENTATIVE

PATRICK MARIDON

City of Sacramento
PMaridon@cityofsacramento.org

AGING & ACTIVITIES SECTION REP.

HEATHER SCHELSKE

Cordova Recreation & Park District
hschelske@cordovarpd.gov

YOUTH & TEEN REC SERVICES (YTRS):

KOURTNEY HOBART

Sunrise Recreation & Park District
khobart@sunriseparks.com

NORTHERN CA AQUATIC MANAGEMENT (NCAMA) CHAIR:

CODY HELMER

City of Sacramento
chelmer@cityofsacramento.org

EDUCATORS SECTION REPRESENTATIVE:

DR. ABHIJEET SHIRSAT

California State University, Sacramento
shirsat@csus.edu

RECREATION SECTION REPRESENTATIVE:

PENELOPE CROUSE-FEEHAN

City of Folsom
pcrouse-feehan@folsom.ca.us

RECREATION THERAPY SECTION REPRESENTATIVE:

VACANT

Interested in this position? Email President
[Kate Miller](mailto:Kate.Miller)

STUDENT SECTION REPRESENTATIVE:

ALLISON ISHAM

City of Folsom
aisham@folsom.ca.us

ADVANCEMENT REPRESENTATIVE:

JOEY ZAOKOPNY

City of Sacramento
JZaokopny@cityofsacramento.org

TECHNOLOGY REPRESENTATIVE:

IAN ROBERTS

Fair Oaks Recreation & Park District
iroberts@forpd.org

DEVELOPMENT & OPS. SECTION REP:

JEFF HOUSER

City of Roseville
jhouser2@roseville.ca.us

SPONSORSHIPS & PARTNERSHIPS REP:

ERIC DEXTER

City of Roseville
edexter@roseville.ca.us

CPRS REGION 1 REPRESENTATIVE:

ASHIKA LAL

Southgate Recreation & Park District
alal@southgaterecandpark.net

@cprsdistrict2
#D2Doing2Much



STAY CONNECTED!

CPRSD2.ORG

