



# BUILDING INDUSTRY TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY

Promoted by the California Homebuilding Foundation

## WHAT IS BITA?

**BITA** is a multi-year high school construction program. Core academic standards and skills are integrated into the construction curriculum, providing the students the connection between the technical skills and their academic classes. BITA exposes the students to the art of residential construction, while motivating them to continue to pursue further educational goals.

Throughout the three or four years in the BITA program, career literacy is stressed continually. Students work in teams and learn the foundational skill of safety, communication, interpersonal relations, ethics, problem solving, and flexibility. During all four years, students will develop their career portfolio, participate in field trip experiences at industry sites and be exposed to networking opportunities with local businesses.

The BITA program integrates into the curriculum core academic subjects, including math, English language arts, history and science. State content standards and state CTE standards are identified in the curriculum.

**YEAR ONE** offers students the chance to gain basic construction skills in the following areas: use of hand tools, machine tools operation, types of construction materials used in the industry, construction and organizational operations, sub-flooring, framing, roofing, blueprint reading, surveying and construction-specific mathematics.

**YEAR TWO** provides the students an opportunity to explore various trades in depth using construction labs and student-directed activities facilitated by the instructor. Students can explore all of the lab activities or pursue advanced levels in an area of interest, which can include concrete, masonry, surveying, site preparation, HVAC, plumbing, drywall, painting and tile. All students will study electrical in year two.

**YEAR THREE** builds on the foundation of the first two years. The students do more complex work-based projects in residential framing, roofing and site preparation. Additionally they work on a Design-Build student competition project. Students function within the classroom as a construction company, taking a project from the initial establishment of a company to the final project. Each student is given a job title and specific responsibilities.

**YEAR FOUR** moves the students to a higher level of competency, as students move to full-scale project and master skills in welding, drywall and finish carpentry.

*BITA teaching space requirements include a classroom, an operational workshop area and outside workspace for constructing projects. Approved text: Modern Carpentry (Wagner & Smith: Goodheart-Wilcox). Supplemental text: Various industry manuals (building code, electrical code, etc.)*