



For immediate release
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California Student to Receive International Award

Arlington, Va., November 7, 2018 – Bryan Martinez, of Riverside, Calif., will receive a **2019 Yes I Can Award** from the **Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)**.

When Bryan Martinez was eight-years-old, he lost his hearing in a car accident and suffered serious physical injury. Bryan now uses bilateral hearing aids, sound field systems, and a personal FM system (personal frequency modulation system) to hear. Through persistence he has excelled in academics and is currently enrolled in three Advanced Placement Classes. Outside of the classroom, during his junior year, he was named the most valuable player on his school's football team.

His teacher describes Bryan as an individual who is resilient despite adversity, works hard, and carries himself in a friendly, respectable manner. He has a way of making others feel comfortable and always maintains a positive attitude. In addition, Bryan is exceptionally gifted in the area of technology. Bryan has trained teachers and staff on how to use the variety of FM Systems and he is involved with filming for his soccer and football team, as well as being involved with robotics in his mathematics class.

CEC is proud to honor Bryan with this award in the technology category. Bryan will receive his award at the Yes I Can Award Ceremony on February 1, 2019, at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis, Ind., as part of the CEC 2019 Convention & Expo. The Yes I Can program recognizes the accomplishments of 12 students with exceptionalities in six categories: academics, arts, school and community activities, self-advocacy, technology, and transition.

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The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is the professional association of educators dedicated to advancing the educational success of children and youth with exceptionalities that accomplishes its mission through advocacy, standards, and professional development. Learn more about CEC at www.cec.sped.org.