

# MOJAM 2019 skateboarding competition brings skating community together



Photo provided

Contestants gather at the March 16 MOJAM 2019 at the Moraga Skate Park.

Submitted by Gina McKenzie

The second annual MOJAM skateboarding competition, held at Moraga Skate Park on March 16, featured approximately 45 contestants across three age groups: 12U, 13-16, and 17 and over. MOJAM 2019 was organized by Jon Soto, Zach Francis and Karl Watson, who is the owner of Maxallure Skateboard and helped sponsor the event, which was free to all.

Soto is a local skateboarding dad who won his first skateboarding competition in 1976. Because skate competitions are such a different experience, Soto wanted young skateboarders to get to know the camaraderie and fun of a contest. He organized the first MOJAM in December 2017 at the Moraga Skate Park, which garnered approximately 25 contestants.

Skaters in each age group had a 1 minute, 15 second run to link together their best tricks as cleanly as possible, then the top five of each group made

the finals and got to take another run before winners were announced. The winners all took home a flashy DIY Medal, a Maxallure board and T-shirt, with first-place winners also getting a pair of Adidas shoes.

Soto will plan the event again next year at Moraga Skate Park – probably over the same weekend.

**Winners:**

**17 and over**

- 1st Ryan Bakonyvari
- 2nd Tyler Lorenzen
- 3rd Dominic Moore

**13-16**

- 1st Rico Cruz
- 2nd Matt Soto
- 3rd Pablo Harris


**12 and under**

- 1st Colby Ebner
- 2nd Drew McKenzie
- 3rd Brody Darin

The Mojam Girl Power award went to Milla Ohrbach.

There was also a best trick contest if you landed the best trick in a five-minute jam session.

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