



ADVOCATE

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WHO = We Honor Ours

Every year the teacher associations in Orange County recognize teachers who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and activism within their associations. These members are honored at the annual W.H.O. (We Honor Ours) Awards Banquet. On May 6, at the Turnip Rose "Grand Newport Plaza" in Costa Mesa, GGEA recognized members who are integral to the success of our Association.



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Armon Akerboom - As a World Language educator, Armon brings multiple perspectives to his leadership. He is a former president and former bargaining chair who continues to contribute his wealth of knowledge on behalf of members. Armon led us through very tough times and is leading us back to prosperity.

Stephanie Almanzan-Young - Stephanie's diligence, honesty, and willingness to speak up for herself and her staff led to her being a successful catalyst for change at her site. She co-trained her colleagues to address issues of workplace bullying, favoritism, and unrealistic expectations of teachers, in a professional and problem solving way. Commendable!

Michael Cadilli - Mike teaches World History and Physical Education. Mike has been involved with the association since his first year of teaching by serving as a site rep. He has served on the AP consult, is now on the bargaining team and is a newly elected PIC chair.

Lucy Farmer - A 23-year veteran of teaching, Lucy is very involved in her association as an Elementary Segment Director and NEA delegate. Her expertise and experience in bargaining brought GGEA through the dark recession times into the light of LCFF. She stands strong for the rights of members.

Bridget Holdermann - Bridget serves as Intermediate Segment Director for GGEA. Bridget also transitioned from bargaining team member to chair as we moved forward from trying times toward better times. Her leadership has helped to communicate our members' needs. Bridget is a strong advocate for educators as well as the students we serve.

Bridget Lockhart - As a High School English teacher and GGEA official, Bridget is a strong advocate for students and members. Bridget has served as a site rep, High School Segment Director, secretary, newsletter editor and is currently 2nd Vice President and on the scholarship committee. Her involvement has propelled GGEA forward.

Hans Lunow - An educator for 16 years teaching AP Human Geography and World History. Served as site rep and serves on District's Peer Assistance Review Panel. Hans also served on GGEA's bargaining team during trying times. He is proud to work with fellow professionals who share a passion for our profession.

Susie Prado - Recognizing the culture of fear and anxiety on her campus, positivity and collegiality was reclaimed by training her colleagues to address specific issues in a professional and problem solving way. The time, effort and emotions put into ensuring the staff's rights to have a positive, cohesive work environment is commendable.

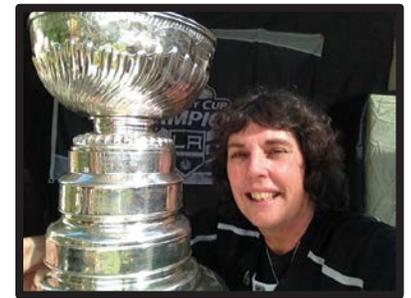
Terry Shepard - An RSP teacher for 19 years. Serving as site Rep, NEA RA delegate, CTA State Council Delegate and is currently serving on four committees: Retirement, EAC (current chair), Special Education, and New Teachers. Terry receives satisfaction by helping her students work hard to succeed academically and socially in the classroom.

Kimberly Ufholtz - Kim may be new to the GGEA Board of Directors, but she has been very involved for many years as a rep, Elections Chair, Grievance and Special Ed committee member. Kim shares her knowledge of students with special needs as we strive to meet the needs of the teachers who work with them.

Tamra Wood - Tamra joined the Bargaining Team as we were coming out of hard times and helped to fight for the restoration of the contract. She shares her perspective and experience as an elementary teacher, thus gaining respect and consistency for those educators as we bargain for their needs.

President's Message

Over 950 thousand men and women are responsible for the future of our nation. Each day they rise early in the morning and bring smiles to the many faces they greet. Each evening, they take personal time to prepare and plan for their next activities. In between that time, these women and men motivate, assist, encourage, cooperate, laugh, cry, speak up, and educate. Yes, these amazing Americans are responsible for educating our children. We call them teachers, nurses, and librarians.



In the month of May each year, we stop and take a moment to recognize these important individuals. Now with social media, the #ThankaTeacher is well used throughout the month. Even President Obama thanked his 5th grade teacher, Mabel Hefty. I #ThankaTeacher to my third grade teacher Mr. Dunmeyer.

Which teachers do you recall making a difference for you? Which teachers do you remember reaching out to you? Which teachers gave you words of encouragement to meet that goal? Which teachers will you thank?

As GGEA President, I am lucky to work with such amazing teachers, nurses and librarians. I witness their dedication to their profession and their love of their students each and every day. I thank all of the GGEA educators for being the ones who make a difference every day, the ones who reach out to others, and the ones who give words of encouragement.

Instead of having a Day of the Teacher, May should be the Month of the Teacher. It should be a time when all Americans stop and reflect on the value of public schools. Our public school employees helped build this country. Our public schools employees develop the leaders of tomorrow. Each day this month, find a way to thank a teacher. GGEA thanks the teachers, nurses and librarians for their inspiration and dedication to our public schools.



Protect what matters to you.

When you're out of commission, you aren't just out of the classroom. You're missing out on what makes you, you. That's why it pays to protect your way of life with CTA-endorsed Disability Insurance from The Standard. It replaces part of your income to pay for the things medical insurance won't cover — like groceries, the mortgage, utility bills and more. Get the confidence that comes with knowing you've protected your future so you can focus on making the most of today. Learn more at CTAMemberBenefits.org/TheStandard.



For costs and further details of the coverage, including exclusions, any reductions or limitations and the terms under which the policy may be continued in force, please contact Standard Insurance Company at 800-522-0406 (TTY). Standard Insurance Company, 1100 SW Sixth Avenue, Portland, OR 97204 GP 190-LTD/S399/CTA.1 SI 17312-CTAvol

Calendar of Events

5/13	CA Day of the Teacher	5/29	Installation Banquet
5/14	Executive Board	6/2	Board of Directors
5/19	Board of Directors	6/5-7	CTA State Council
5/25	Memorial Day	6/9	Retirement Tribute
5/26	Recognition Rep Council	6/17	Last Student Day
5/27	CTA Orange Service Center	6/18	Last Teacher Day

**Attorney available June 17.
Please call for appointments.*

Advocate Editorial Staff:

Willie Burghard, Sara McCarthy, Tina Gustin-Gurney, Susan Kaylor

Contributors this Month:

Geoff Burgueno, Gerri Brown, Jim Keltner, Kristi Kemp, Bridget Lockhart,
Thanh Nguyen, Kelly Nolan

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Board of Directors

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(GGEA Office)

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Bridget Holdermann

(McGarvin)

Elementary Segment Director

Lucy Farmer (Peters K-3)

Jenny Knox (Stanford)

Karyn Lui-Silverberg (Allen)

Kim Ufholtz (Anthony)

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Jim Rogers
GGEA Office

Day of the Teacher Poster Contest



Every year GGEA sponsors the Day of the Teacher poster contest to promote the positive influence teachers have on their students. Posters must be original student work and are judged on creativity, originality, appropriateness, and relationship to the theme. This year our theme was “Teachers are the Best in the West.”

The following winners were recognized with certificates and prize money at the April Rep Council meeting. The Grand Prize poster, drawn by Emily Plasencia, from La Quinta, was reproduced and displayed at school sites and in the community. Congratulations to all of the talented artists who participated!

Congratulations to our winners!

<i>PreSchool</i>	<i>Alyssa Mendoza</i>	<i>Clinton Corner</i>
<i>Kindergarten</i>	<i>Zamier Castillo</i>	<i>Eisenhower</i>
<i>1st Grade</i>	<i>Fatima Salgado</i>	<i>Violette</i>
<i>2nd Grade</i>	<i>Jessica Lopez</i>	<i>Evans</i>
<i>3rd Grade</i>	<i>Fatima Conde</i>	<i>Eisenhower</i>
<i>4th Grade</i>	<i>Darlana Le</i>	<i>Patton</i>
<i>5th Grade</i>	<i>Vivian Lam</i>	<i>Bryant</i>
<i>6th Grade</i>	<i>Chloe Nguyen</i>	<i>Allen</i>
<i>Special Ed</i>	<i>Cristopher Salinas</i>	<i>Clinton(5th Gr)</i>
<i>Intermediate</i>	<i>Angela Ortiz</i>	<i>Fitz</i>
<i>High School</i>	<i>Guillermo Olguin</i>	<i>Santiago</i>
<i>GRAND PRIZE</i>	<i>Emily Plasencia</i>	<i>La Quinta</i>



Top Image: Award Winners
Bottom Right: Grand Prize Winner Emily Plasencia with her teacher Thanh Nguyen

Be a GGEA Facebook Friend

To join: Facebook members search for “Garden Grove Education Association” and ask to join the group. Allow our administrators 24-48 hours to accept your request.

This is a closed group for members of GGEA only and not open to the public. If you have any questions, send a message to the group administrators or ask your rep.



Welcome to our New GGEA Members!

Troy Haines
Esperanza Klevos



*GGEA would like to recognize all the nurses who work to ensure the health and wellness of our students each and every day!
Happy Nurses' Day!*

Choir Night at Angel Stadium

Choirs from Santiago High School and Rancho Alamitos High School participated in the Inaugural Angel Choir Night at Angel Stadium on April 25th. They were part of 10 choirs from Orange County that were asked to sing the National Anthem before the game! Choir directors Ma-Young Moon (Santiago) and Melanie Hagen-Ching (Rancho Alamitos) first heard about this opportunity in October 2014 and applied to be a part of the very first Angel Choir Night! Both choirs represented their schools well and hope this becomes an annual event!



Congratulations to the GGEA Jim Wicker



Lisa Nguyen will be joining the graduating class of 2015 from Rancho Alamitos High School this June. She plans to attend the University of California in San Diego this fall where she looks forward to beginning her degree in the area of Molecular Biology. Lisa has worked diligently throughout her education and will take this habit of mind with her to pursue her dream of working in the medical field, specifically as an anesthesiologist.

Over her tenure at Rancho Alamitos High School, Lisa earned a 4.24 GPA while taking as many as 10 AP courses. She earned the AP Scholar with Honor award along with the District Certification of Appreciation. She volunteers with the Student League, Orange Coast Memorial Hospital, and the Key Club, to name a few. In addition to her tremendous academic and community service accomplishments, she was highly active in tennis where she was a member of the varsity tennis team for all four years and earned a chance to compete as a finalist in the district's tennis doubles championship.

Lisa believes that her compassion for people and her passion to always do her best are crucial traits that will help her to live her dream of working with people and helping her community to be a better place. Lisa's teacher, Mrs. Blandford, says that, "Lisa shows compassion for others, is well-liked by her peers, and is capable and willing to make sound decisions for herself." Clearly, Lisa has what it takes to succeed and we wish her all the best.



Smile... **Karina Pineda** is on her way to UC Santa Cruz next fall to begin her studies to become a Dentist. During her four years at Santiago High School she was involved in Girls Tennis, String Orchestra, Drill Team and still had time to be the Vice president of the French Club. She also finds time to volunteer on weekends at the Christ Cathedral to help feed the homeless.

Karina will be the first in her family to go to college. She comes from a low income family and has overcome many difficulties that may have discouraged her along the way. Her guidance counselor describes her as "honest, caring and determined to succeed regardless of the obstacles that may come." She has taken several AP Classes at Santiago and has a 3.9 grade point average. Karina is ranked 45 out of 595 in her class.

One of her goals would be to see that everyone has access to affordable medical and dental care. We thank you Karina, for giving back to the community.



Kayla Boogar is not only the daughter of GGEA member Tami Boogar (Sunnyside Elementary) and Rick Boogar (Marina High School), but she is also the sister of GGEA member Tyler Boogar (Bolsa Grande). Academics have kept her busy as she is graduating from Marina High School with a weighted academic grade point average of 4.16 and by doing well in her 9 AP classes, she will be entering California State University, Long Beach as a sophomore with 36 units of credit. Kayla plans to major in English Literature and theater with the hopes of completing an advanced degree. One of her teachers writes of her, "Ms. Boogar is a very exceptional student and person, and well-respected by both her peers and the teaching staff...On the surface she is 'just another kid' but underneath, she is truly gifted."

Kayla has viewed high school as a place to "try on" many different activities to see where her interests lay; she found her passion through the Academy for the Performing Arts (APA) in the Huntington Beach High School District. Kayla has not only appeared on stage often, but also worked as an assistant director for an APA theatrical production. Kayla has also tried her hand at class office and golf while achieving the Silver Award in Girls Scouts and a Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do.

Memorial Scholarship Recipients



Lily Mooney, daughter of GGEA member and Murdy Elementary teacher Mary Mooney Argy, will soon be entering her freshman year at Chapman University. Lily is graduating from Fountain Valley High School this June and will pursue a major in biological sciences. She will follow her passion for animals to become a veterinarian. While attending Fountain Valley HS, Lily has given much of her time to the Pep Squad and Dance Team, but her heart is with animals, so she is also the treasurer of the ARF (Animal Rescue Federation) Club that she helped to found. As a Miss Fountain Valley Runner-Up she has made “Be Humane – Save a Furry Friend” her Miss America platform.

When Lily is not putting her energy into her school activities, you may find her volunteering at the Cat Protection Society where she helps in the retirement area by taking care of senior cats or she may just be thinking about the next chapter in her Choose Your Own Adventure novel that she hopes to write.

Lily’s biology teacher and Dance Team advisor says, “Lily has a positive attitude and always reaches the goals that she sets for herself. She is liked and admired by her peers and coaches. She is definitely a Stand Out student!”



Jessica Hoang is graduating from Rancho Alamitos High School in June and will be attending Cal State Fullerton in the fall to pursue a degree in communicative disorders. Jessica was inspired to be a speech pathologist because of her close relationship with her sister, who has autism, and her volunteer work with Intensive Behavior Instruction (IBI) where she guides students with special needs to behave appropriately and socialize with their peers.

Jessica is a leader on the RAHS campus, including officer roles as Student League Treasurer, National Honor Society Treasurer and President, and being a member of Key Club, Latinos Unidos, and California Scholastic Federation. Jessica is also a gifted musician who played in the orchestra for three years and currently plays cello for St. Columban Church. Her well-roundedness will ensure her future success.



Leena Tran, one of Rancho Alamitos High School's finest, will be one of the newest additions to the UCLA freshmen class in the fall where she will study microbiology. Leena is compassionate, empathetic, and loves helping others. These traits, combined with her interest in biology and affinity for children, are the motivation for her to reach her ultimate goal of being a pediatrician.

During high school, Leena demonstrated her leadership in many capacities including positions as Key Club Treasurer and President, Student League Vice President, California Scholarship Federation President, as well as being a member of NHS and a dedicated musician in the orchestra, all while maintaining an impressive 4.25 GPA.



Diana Parcell, I.M.A.D. Award Winner

A Collaborative Culture That Extends Beyond School and District Boundaries

Diana Parcell has been teaching for seventeen years. She entered the industry at the dawn of the standards movement and No Child Left Behind. She is now faced with her second major shift in how and what she teaches her students as we've moved into the era of the Common Core State Standards.

Over the last seventeen years, she has had great mentors who shared with her the great practices they were using in their classrooms. She welcomed the collaboration, took what she liked, and adapted it to make it fit her needs and teaching personality. As the years have passed and she has now become the veteran teacher, she is sharing her practices with anyone who is interested. Her collaboration is not limited to the teachers immediately around her or even to the teachers in her school district as Diana created a teacher website that is accessible to all. Diana puts her academic calendar that lists the topics, lessons, assignments, and projects by date as well as the Power Point presentations, resources, and practice materials associated with the topics, listed on her website. She also provides links to websites that provide additional interactive practice opportunities to students interested in honing their science skills in preparation for assessments. As mentioned earlier, her website is accessible to all. She does not limit access to her students and families but leaves it open to anyone who might be looking for ways to enhance their science education experiences either as student or teacher. It is for this reason that I am writing this short piece.



Diana Parcell with her husband

Diana is so gracious, giving, and collaborative. She knows what she is doing for her students is meaningful, relevant, and effective, but now with Common Core, she is looking anywhere and everywhere for collaboration opportunities. It seems like-minded people are doing the same, and as a result of Diana's teacher website, she has people reaching out to her from all over the country. Diana routinely receives thumb drives in her mail at home from teachers who have contacted her over email and eventually talked to her over the phone. Diana graciously puts all of her science materials on the thumb drives and sends them back to the teachers free of charge. Teachers in turn share what they do with Diana. Diana has become, in my eyes, the model of collaboration for not only our school district, but for the teaching community as a whole. Anyone who knows Diana would agree that her collaborative spirit is shadowed only by her humility. It is her humility that will get me in trouble for writing this article. Diana does not think what she does in her classroom is special, but she knows it is effective. She

will always give credit where credit is due, but I feel the true credit goes to Diana for being a positive force in de-privatizing educational practices and creating a collaborative culture for not just her school site and school district, but for our country.