



Synergies

The power of
partnerships
for our
schools

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Classroom of the Future Foundation

May 2005

Sneak Preview of May 26 Innovation Awards

Dynamic, forward thinking teachers, administrators and students will be honored at the annual Innovation in Education Awards program on Thursday, May 26 at PETCO Park. This year, the nominations for both the Innovation in Education Awards and the Hi-Tech Academic Achievement winners were overwhelming!

Here's a sneak preview of the **inspire.innovate.achieve** award winners. You'll definitely want to be part of the evening's festivities so make plans now to attend by registering online at www.classroomofthefuture.org/2005event

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### Innovation Winners

#### inspire Award

Many **Cajon Valley Union School District** students look at their cell phones in a new whole new light, thanks to *Tech Link for Student Success in Creating Wireless Building Blocks*.

The inspirational partnership between **QUALCOMM** engineers and teachers in grades 6 to 8 and school officials utilized wireless technology to excite students about the potential and applications of math and science.

Making class work relevant often is the key to engaging students!

#### innovate Award

Watch and learn! Those are the keywords of *Project LIVE (Learning Through Innovative Video in Education)*.

A group of **Escondido Union Elementary School District** teachers banded together to learn how to incorporate video

into the classroom. They worked on weekends, producing their own videos so they would understand the students' experience. Soon they found themselves coaching students more effectively and seeing more students engaged as never before.

#### achieve Award

**Bonita Vista High School** teacher Bonnie Wyllie hits a home run with her *Fantasy Baseball Program*. She's used the concept for 12 years to teach math to more than 1,800 students.

Ratios, averages, fractions and more take on new meaning to students and it works. In 2004, all 120 of her students passed the mathematics section of the California High School Exit Exam.

#### impact Award

Students throughout San Diego County can't wait for the scientist to arrive in class,

thanks to *Partnerships Involving the Scientific Community in Elementary Schools (PISCES)* lead by Nancy Taylor of the **San Diego County Office of Education**.

The wide-ranging program in 10 school districts pairs university graduate science students with elementary school teachers. Grad students spend 4-6 hours a week in class, sharing real life science and reviewing student science journals similar to what the scientists write.

Real-world exposure inside the classroom has profoundly impacted hundreds of students and has significantly increased science instructional time. ▯

## *Scholarship Recipients Paint a Bright Future*

Twelve bright and dedicated students will be honored May 26 with a High Tech Academic Achievement Scholarships and one with the Joe Rindone Memorial Scholarship. Each is a real inspiration!

**Phoebe Bautista, Montgomery High School.** She dreams of becoming a nurse. She's off to a great start after arriving from the Philippines as a freshman and maintaining a 4.0 grade point average on her way to SDSU.

**David Mireles, Montgomery High School.** David is an AVID student and accomplished athlete whose positive attitude inspires others. He's bound for SDSU.

**Christina Garcia, Borrego Springs Middle/High School.** Christina doesn't lack for confidence, improving from a C student in middle school to a top-five ranking in her graduating class. She's been accepted at UCSD.

**Ishraq Ali, Granite Hills High School.** A natural leader, National Honor Society member, athlete and academic decathlon team member is a real book lover on her way to the University of Southern California

**Jesus Padilla, Patrick Henry High School.** Jesus says the AVID program kept him focusing on his way to graduation, acceptance at SDSU and plans to become a civil engineer.

**Paul Chikuru, Crawford High School.** Paul is an all-around student, involved in Peer Helping, French Club, Leadership Club and others. He plans to be an engineer after graduating from SDSU.

**Jose Gomez-Martinez: San Pasqual High School.** President of his school's AVID club, Jose's GPA was 4.0+ even though he worked after school. He's on his way to UCLA.

**Jesus Tapia: Orange Glen High School.** Jesus is a great role model, already completing 6 advanced placement classes on his way to UC Berkeley.

**Leticia Mata, Orange Glen High School.** Someday you'll find the accomplished Leticia teaching math to future generations after she graduates from UCSD.

**Cindi Hernandez, El Cajon Valley High School.** After arriving from El Salvador in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, Cindi maintained a 4.15 GPA while taking care of siblings because her parents work nights. She hopes to attend UC Berkeley.

**Brenda De La Cruz, Ranch Buena Vista High School.** Brenda ranks near the top with a 4.81 GPA, Science Olympiad participation and National Honor Society membership. She's on her way to a career in medicine with a stop at UCSD.

**Davina Diggs, Sweetwater High School.** Davina is a dedicated community volunteer who always takes the most difficult classes. That's earned her acceptance to UCSD with plans to major in chemistry. ☐

## *Jury Duty Honors Student Achievement*

Thanks to the following jury members who reviewed all of the scholarship applications and the innovation award nominations.

### **High Tech Scholarship Jury**

Todd Gutschow, Classroom of the Future  
David Kapelinski, UCSD Medical Center  
Cindi Bishop, SDCOE  
Bruce Braciszewski, Classroom of the Future  
Rick Beach, Amazing Possibilities

### **Innovation in Education Jury**

Ruth Patterson, Amylin Pharmaceuticals  
Lean King, Superintendent, Lemon Grove  
Rich Thome, Asst. Superintendent, SDCOE  
Bruce Braciszewski, Classroom of the Future  
Rick Beach, Amazing Possibilities  
Tom Dillon, SAIC  
Bill McGrath, JCCS, SDCOE  
Ritz Sherman, Apple Computer  
Ed Wallace, SONY  
Vance Tester, QUALCOMM

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## *Widespread Community Support for Awards Program*

A wide range of leading community organizations and individuals have stepped up to the plate this year with awards ceremony sponsorships. A very heartfelt thank you goes out to:

### **Hall of Fame Sponsors**

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