



**Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**TUCSON VALUES TEACHERS PRESENTED THE OCTOBER TEACHER
EXCELLENCE AWARD TO ELIZABETH FLORES**

TUCSON, Ariz. — Tucson Values Teachers (TVT) presented the October Teacher Excellence Award to Elizabeth Flores, a seventh-grade social studies teacher at Anza Trail K-8 School. The Teacher Excellence Award honors outstanding PreK-12 educators in Southern Arizona. Flores was surprised with the award during the school's Fun Run event.

Flores, currently in her 23rd year of teaching, has taught in the Sahuarita Unified School District for the past 14 years. Prior to this, Flores taught in the Flowing Wells School District. Flores was nominated for the Teacher Excellence Award by her former colleague, Kelli Zielinski.

In her nominating statement, Zielinski said, "In a field where organization, caring, quick-thinking, and creativity all seem to be prerequisites for being successful, Liz operates on a whole different level. Her on-her-toes quick thinking is unparalleled—often she has the solution before you even realized there was a problem."

Zielinski added, "Working with Liz inspires me to be better and do better."

Tucson Values Teachers spotlights quality Southern Arizona teachers every month. Teachers are nominated through Tucson Values Teachers' website by colleagues, students, friends, and other community members. Winners of the Teacher Excellence Award receive \$250 cash courtesy of Helios Education Foundation, a \$100 gift card for classroom materials, and flowers.

More information about the Teacher Excellence Award, including the nomination form, can be found at www.tucsonvaluesteachers.org.

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Tucson Values Teachers (TVT) is a business and education partnership focused on helping schools and districts attract, retain and support the very best teachers for every PreK-12 classroom in Southern Arizona. The organization recognizes the critical role teachers play in student achievement and the vital influence they have on Tucson's future. It does this work by raising public awareness of the value of the teaching profession while providing programs that benefit teachers economically and professionally. For more information and to support TVT, visit tucsonvaluesteachers.org or call (520) 327-7619.