



# Tucson Values Teachers

## OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

Great Teachers.  
Successful Students.  
Prosperous Community.

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### A note from Andy Heinemann

To the Southern Arizona community:

Five years ago, I accepted the position of CEO of Tucson Values Teachers determined to make a lasting impact on the organization and our teachers. I am proud of the work that has been done during this time, including establishing scholarships for professional development, setting up a mentorship program, and expanding our mission to include our early childhood educators.

It is time, however, for me to move on. I have decided to retire at the end of this year. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all who have helped me along the way. I am forever grateful for the friendships I've made with those from the Southern Arizona Leadership Council, Helios Education Foundation, TREC, Raytheon Missiles and Defense, Tucson Electric Power, the Thomas R. Brown Foundation, Jonathan's Educational Resources, and so many others.

And of course, I would like to thank all the Southern Arizona teachers,



educators, and administrators who inspire me every day.

My years in education—as a teacher, a principal, and with TVT—has been more than a job. It is a passion that will not end with retirement. My hope is to continue to support our teachers and our schools in other ways. Until next time, I wish you all the best.

Andy Heinemann  
CEO, Tucson Values Teachers

*Tucson Values Teachers is currently seeking qualified candidates interested in serving as our next CEO. Please direct inquiries to [info@tucsonvaluesteachers.org](mailto:info@tucsonvaluesteachers.org).*

## Stand Up 4 Teachers on Nov. 16 at Westin La Paloma

The poster is for the "Stand Up 4 Teachers" 15th Anniversary Celebration. It features the Tucson Values Teachers logo on the left and right. At the top center is a red ribbon banner that says "15th Anniversary Celebration!". Below this is a large blue box with the text "STAND UP 4 TEACHERS" in white. Underneath that, it says "A Celebration of Education Champions". The Tucson Electric Power (TEP) logo is prominently displayed in the center, with the text "Tucson Electric Power" and "2023 Presenting Sponsor" below it. A red banner across the middle of the poster contains the date and time: "November 16, 2023 • 5:30-7:30 pm" and the location "~ Westin La Paloma ~". Below this, it specifies the schedule: "5:30pm- Cocktails, Hors d'oeuvres, and Networking • 6:30-7:30pm- Awards Program". The bottom section of the poster is titled "STAND UP 4 TEACHERS FEATURES THE PRESENTATION OF:" and lists two awards. On the left, the "Spirit of Education Award" is presented to "Garry Brav". On the right, the "Raytheon Leaders in Education Award" is presented to "four exceptional Pima County Teachers". Logos for the sponsors are at the bottom: SALC (Southern Arizona Leadership Council), BizTucson, and the Arizona Daily Star (tucson.com). A small line of text states: "All proceeds benefit Tucson Values Teachers. For more information and sponsorship opportunities, please visit [TucsonValuesTeachers.org](http://TucsonValuesTeachers.org) or call 520-261-9651".

**Join us for our 15th Anniversary celebration!**

[Stand Up 4 Teachers](#), presented by Tucson Electric Power, will be held at the Westin La Paloma on November 16 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. In addition to honoring four exceptional Pima County teachers with the Raytheon Leaders in Education Award, we'll honor Garry Brav with the Spirit of Education Award.

Individual tickets are \$75 each. Cocktails and networking begins at 5:30pm. The program will begin promptly at 6:30pm.

[Event Page](#)





**Tucson  
Values  
Teachers**

*15 Year Celebration!*

**STAND UP 4 TEACHERS**

**SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

Promotional Benefits	Presenting Sponsor \$25,000	Gold Sponsor \$12,500	Silver Sponsor \$10,000	Bronze Sponsor \$7,500	Honor Roll Sponsor \$5,000	Friends of TVT Sponsor \$2,500
Two 15-second TV/Streaming spots	Exclusive					
Video ad spot during presentation	Exclusive					
Inclusion in press release	Exclusive					
Artistic display of logo on main table	Exclusive					
Product and banner display opportunities	Exclusive					
Guest Tokens	25	20	15	10	6	4
Teacher tickets	25	20	15	10	6	4
Recognition in Arizona Daily Star and Tucsonian publications	X	X	X			
Large Placement: Digital inclusion, website, event signage, program brochure, printed event program	Prominent	X	X	X		
Company name placement on program brochure	X	X	X	X	X	X
Social Media & E-mail Acknowledgments	X	X	X	X	X	X
Name printed on program and website	X	X	X	X	X	X

Individual tickets at \$75. A portion of all tickets sold is tax deductible.  
Contributions at levels other than listed above may be negotiated.  
For sponsorship inquiries and payment, please contact Terresa Tausin, Director of Development at 520-251-9551 or [ttausin@tucsonvalueteachers.org](mailto:ttausin@tucsonvalueteachers.org)

## Sponsorship Opportunities Available!

Be an education champion by sponsoring Stand Up 4 Teachers!

Review our Sponsorship Opportunities to learn about the different levels of support and the benefits to your business.

You can also support teachers by making a [personal donation](#) or joining us at the event by [purchasing individuals tickets](#)!

[Learn More](#)

## Congratulations to our September Teacher Excellence Award winner



**Congratulations to our September Teacher Excellence Award winner, Natasha Novak!**

Ms. Novak is a preschool teacher at Ocotillo Early Learning Center in Sunnyside

Unified School District. She was nominated by her colleague, Jennifer Arenas-Cardenas.

In her nominating statement, Ms. Arenas-Cardenas wrote:

*"Natashia Novak embodies excellence by guiding aspiring educators as a mentor and fostering an inclusive classroom for preschool children with special needs, rooted in evidence-based practices. Her unwavering support for general education teachers in aiding children with disabilities underscores her commitment to collaboration. She offers top-tier professional development that elevates her colleagues' inclusionary practices. Moreover, Natashia's dedication extends to families during preschool to kindergarten transitions, exemplifying a holistic and nurturing approach to education. In these multifaceted roles, Natashia stands out as a beacon of excellence in teaching, transforming lives and fostering a brighter future."*

[Nominate a teacher!](#)

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## Register for the ASRS Workshop



Do you contribute to the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS)?  
Do you know how your future benefits will be calculated?

This workshop for early- and mid-career educators will provide a tutorial on ASRS and tips for maximizing this valuable component of your retirement plan.

**October 4, 2023**  
**4pm to 5pm**  
**Virtual via Zoom**

[Register](#)

This program is co-sponsored by Tucson Values Teachers and the University of Arizona Office of Economic Education. Four classroom teachers will win a \$50 Amazon gift card!

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## MEAD 2024 Call for Proposals



The UArizona Center for Recruitment and Retention of Mathematics Teachers (CRR) has begun preparations for the 20th Annual Mathematics Educator Appreciation Day Conference (MEAD), to be held on Saturday, January 27, 2024. MEAD is Arizona's largest mathematics education event, offering FREE professional learning for mathematics educators in grades PreK-14.

**CRR is seeking MEAD session proposals from teachers or pairs of teachers to present the innovations they are trying this year and how those are supporting students as they learn maths.**

Make sure to submit your proposal before the deadline on **Monday, October 25, 2023.**

[Learn More](#)

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## News from TREC



TREC invites you to attend October's **Educator Emotional Resilience Community of Practice**. Each month this CoP discusses topics centered around resilience to help teachers build their strength, curiosity, and joy. This month's focus is "Be Here Now," where we will practice mindfulness, incorporate humor, and build resilience.

Monthly attendance is encouraged but not required. Register today at <https://trecarizona.org/resources/educator-emotional-resilience-cop-2023-2024/>. Participation in the CoP is free of charge and includes educators from throughout the Tucson region.

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TREC is also excited to share two upcoming opportunities for *early childhood* educators! Nature Created Play and TREC — through generous funding by the Helios Education Foundation — are hosting a free **Process Art Workshop**, allowing early



childhood teachers to educate themselves in the journey of process art for young minds!

Learn how to apply art in engaging hands-on activities with preschool students and take away key process art skills.

These skills will help you both ignite young minds through captivating art activities and communicate the value of these activities to families!

Join Nature Created Play and TREC on **Saturday, October 21, from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM**, for this amazing workshop! The event is in-person and includes a light breakfast and take-away lunch.

To learn more and register, please visit <https://trecarizona.org/resources/process-art/>.

**TREC** is also proud to partner with the **Southern Arizona Association for the Education of Young Children (SAZAEYC)** to offer scholarships for educators to attend the **2023 Annual SAZAEYC Conference**—*Whole Child, Whole Teacher, Whole Learning: Honoring Culture in the Classroom and Beyond*. The conference is scheduled for Saturday, December 2, at the University of Arizona, and will include 8 hours of professional development, breakfast, lunch, and an Exhibitor Hall.



Scholarships are made possible by generous grants from both the Helios Education Foundation and the Trico Electric Cooperative.

**To learn more about these scholarships and apply, please visit <https://trecarizona.org/resources/scholarship2023-conference/>. Applications are due by 5pm on Friday, Oct. 27.**

For more information about the SAZAEYC Conference itself, please visit <https://www.sazaeyc.org/annual-conference.html>.

# Teacher Discount Card business partner spotlight:

Thank you to our latest Teacher Discount Card business partners!

- **The Solar Store** is offering teachers a 5% discount for installing solar electric systems to their homes.
- **Topgolf** is offering teachers 10% off Walk-in Game Play Rates and 10% off Events Game Play & Room Rental.



To learn more about these offers, or to find out about other Teacher Discount Card Partners, please visit our [website](#).

## Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- Register for the **October 4** [Arizona State Retirement System workshop](#).
- Register for the [Process Art Workshop](#), scheduled for **October 21** and hosted by TREC and Nature Created Play.
- Submit a proposal for the [Mathematics Educator Appreciation Day Conference](#) by **October 25**.
- Purchase tickets to [Stand Up 4 Teachers](#), scheduled for **November 16, 2023** at the Westin La Paloma.
- Attend the [Annual SAZAEYC Conference](#) on **December 2**. Scholarship applications due October 27.
- Submit [Teacher Excellence Award](#) nominations all year long to help us recognize outstanding PreK-12 Southern Arizona teachers.

### mentorship program

#### Receive Support from a Teacher Mentor

Tucson Values Teachers offers a FREE mentorship program to all PreK-12 teachers looking for additional support and guidance from teacher leaders with many years of experience.

APPLY NOW

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### scholarships

#### Professional Development Scholarships Available

Southern Arizona Pre-K teachers may apply for a scholarship of up to \$250 to help pay tuition, registration fees, or materials related to a PD conference or workshop.

APPLY NOW



### Save with the Teacher Discount Card

Visit the Teacher Discount Card page to sign up for the 2023 card and to learn more about our business partners and the special discounts they offer for educators.

LEARN MORE



### TVT partners with ODP Business Solutions

ODP Business Solutions provides access to discounted supplies, equipment, and technology, providing Southern Arizona teachers with increased access to essential resources.

CREATE AN ACCOUNT

#### ***Vision:***

*Great Teachers. Successful Students.  
Prosperous Community.*

#### ***Mission:***

*To inspire support of PreK-12 teachers in  
Southern Arizona through community  
collaborations that attract, retain, and  
celebrate teacher excellence.*



Tucson Values Teachers | [TucsonValuesTeachers.org](http://TucsonValuesTeachers.org)



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