

SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)



## Press Release For Immediate Release

**Thursday, August 28, 2025**

Contact:  
Danicka Allen  
Director of Marketing & Communications  
520-422-0336

**AMENDED: Please note the correct spelling is "O'Rielly Chevrolet" -- We apologize for the error in the previously sent press release; it has been updated below.**

### **TUCSON VALUES TEACHERS NAMES O'RIELLY CHEVROLET AS SPIRIT OF EDUCATION AWARDEE, ANNOUNCES FINALISTS FOR RAYTHEON LEADERS IN EDUCATION AWARD**

TUCSON, AZ — Tucson Values Teachers is proud to announce O'Rielly Chevrolet as the recipient of the 2025 Spirit of Education Award for their outstanding and long-term commitment to supporting teachers and education. This prestigious annual award is presented to a business that has made significant contributions to the education community in Southern Arizona. O'Rielly Chevrolet has demonstrated its dedication to education through community investment, ongoing partnerships, and steadfast support of teachers across the region. O'Rielly Chevrolet will be recognized at the Tucson Values Teachers award ceremony, Stand Up 4 Teachers, on November 6, 2025.

"We are proud of our long tradition of supporting local education and are very grateful for the opportunity to be associated with TVT and to do what we can to recognize and celebrate teacher excellence in Tucson and Southern Arizona." said O'Rielly Chevrolet President, Robert Draper.

Tucson Values Teachers also announced the finalists for the tenth annual Raytheon Leaders in Education Award. The award recognizes and rewards Pima County PreK-12 teachers for exceptional commitment to the education of youth, leadership within their communities, and support of peers in a collaborative teacher workforce.

Four awardees will be selected from among the finalists through a comprehensive review process and will be announced live at Stand Up 4 Teachers. The four awardees will receive \$2,500 each, plus an additional \$2,500

in matching gifts to each teacher's respective district. The remaining finalists will also receive \$500 each.

"We are proud to honor O'Rielly Chevrolet with this year's Spirit of Education Award for their unwavering commitment to supporting teachers and students in Southern Arizona. Their investment in education truly strengthens our entire community," said Tucson Values Teachers Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Teresa Hill. "We are also excited to announce the finalists for the Raytheon Leaders in Education Awards. These outstanding educators exemplify the passion, innovation, and dedication that inspire the next generation."

The Stand Up 4 Teachers event will be held at the Tucson Convention Center Leo Rich Theatre on Thursday, November 6, 2025. A reception and cocktail hour will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by the ceremony at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are available to purchase at <https://tucsonvaluesteachers.org/go/su4t2025>.

### **2025 Raytheon Leaders in Education Award Finalists:**

- **Renee Shane Boyd** (Grades 9-12, Instrumental Music) Catalina Foothills High School, Catalina Foothills Unified School District
- **Mandi Cordell** (Grade 4) Innovation Academy, Amphitheater Public Schools
- **Melissa Dwyer** (Grade 8, Math) Esmond Station K-8 School, Vail School District
- **Patrick Kelly** (Grades 6-8, CR Social Studies) Miles Exploratory Learning Center, Tucson Unified School District
- **Cary Kelly** (Grades 9-12, English) Flowing Wells High School, Flowing Wells Unified School District
- **Jessica Leonard** (Grade 6) Butterfield Elementary School, Marana Unified School District
- **Mary Markley** (Kindergarten) Pusch Ridge Christian Academy Grammar Campus, Pusch Ridge Christian Academy
- **Sara Mora** (Grade 6-8, CTE, Digital Media) Wrightson Ridge School, Sahuarita Unified School District
- **Celina Morales** (Kindergarten) Carrillo K-5 Magnet School, Tucson Unified School District
- **Marian Smith** (Grade 11, History) Flowing Wells High School, Flowing Wells Unified School District
- **Hilaria Szelog** (Grade 5) Los Amigos Tech Academy, Sunnyside Unified School District
- **Ashlee Manley Watson** (Grade 1) Innovation Academy, Amphitheater Public Schools

###

**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](https://tucsonvaluesteachers.org) or call (520) 203-8538.

**Vision:**

*Great Teachers. Successful Students.  
Prosperous Community.*

**Mission:**

*To elevate the teaching profession in  
Southern Arizona by empowering and  
celebrating PreK-12 teacher excellence  
through community engagement and  
investment.*



**Tucson  
Values  
Teachers**

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



Tucson Values Teachers | 1760 E River Rd. Ste. 280 | Tucson, AZ 85718 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)