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**Tucson
Values
Teachers**

OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

GREAT TEACHERS.
SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS.
PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY.

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Spirit of Education Awardee & Raytheon Leaders in Education Awards Finalists Announced



Tucson Values Teachers is thrilled to present the 2025 Spirit of Education Award to O’Rielly Chevrolet for their outstanding commitment to strengthening education in Southern Arizona. Through their consistent generosity and community partnerships, O’Rielly Chevrolet has demonstrated an unwavering dedication to supporting teachers and students.

In addition, we are excited to recognize the finalists for the Raytheon Leaders in Education Awards. These teachers exemplify excellence in the classroom, inspire innovation, and are shaping the future of our community. This year’s finalists are:

- **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

The Raytheon Leaders in Education Award recipients will be revealed live during Stand Up 4 Teachers on Thursday, November 6th.

Join us in celebrating these incredible educators and community champions who are making a lasting impact on education in Southern Arizona!

Stand Up 4 Teachers 2025 Tickets On Sale Now



Tucson Values Teachers is excited to announce that our annual event, Stand Up 4 Teachers, will take place on Thursday, November 6, 2025! This special evening, presented by O'Rielly Chevrolet and Jim Click Automotive, celebrates the dedication and impact of Southern Arizona educators while bringing the community together to show appreciation for their hard work. Tickets are on sale now!

Get Your Tickets

Purchase Jim Click Millions for Tucson Raffle Tickets from TVT

WIN ONE
OF THREE GREAT PRIZES!

TICKET PRICE
\$25 EACH OR
5 FOR \$100

Raffle benefiting Tucson charities
100% of funds raised stays here.

GRAND PRIZE
NEW 2025 KIA CARNIVAL
HYBRID SX PRESTIGE

2ND PRIZE
TWO ROUND-TRIP, FIRST CLASS
AIRLINE TICKETS TO ANYWHERE
IN THE WORLD!*

3RD PRIZE
\$5,000 CASH!

TVT is excited to participate in the Jim Click Millions for Tucson Raffle, and we need your support! When you purchase a raffle ticket from TVT, 100% of the proceeds go directly to supporting teachers in Southern Arizona — helping us provide resources, recognition, and professional development for the educators who shape our future.

Tickets are just \$25 each or 5 for \$100 — and your purchase enters you to win incredible prizes, including a brand-new 2025 Kia Carnival Hybrid SX Prestige, two first-class airline tickets, or \$5,000 in cash!

Every ticket purchased through Tucson Values Teachers makes a difference. Help us uplift and support our educators while getting a chance to win big!

Get Your Tickets

Teacher Excellence Award



The September Teacher Excellence Award was presented to Mr. Alan King, a CTE teacher at Pima JTED at Project Search.

It's a new school year which means it's time to nominate your favorite teachers for a Teacher Excellence Award! Awardees will receive \$250 cash, a \$100 gift card for school supplies, and TVT goodies!

Nominations can come from administrators, colleagues, parents, or students!

Submit a Nomination!

SAZAEYC Annual Conference

2025 **sazaeyc**
Annual Conference



Spark Joy, Spark Learning



To register, visit sazaeyc.org,
or text "25CONF" to
(520) 655-4025.



The SAZAEYC Annual Conference is approaching, and early bird registration is now available!

Event Details:

Theme: Spark Joy, Spark Learning

Dates: November 14–15, 2025

Location: Tucson, Arizona

Click below to register today!

[Register](#)

Act One Field Trip Programs

act one

Act One is a local charity that provides free in-person and virtual reality arts education field trips to students attending Title I schools throughout Arizona. To learn more about our field trip programs, and to apply for a field trip this season, click below!

[Register](#)

Fall Southern AZ Home Show



The [Fall Southern AZ Home Show](#) will return to the Tucson Convention Center from Friday, October 3 through Sunday, October 5, and will again be offering **free and discounted admission for all teachers!**

- One FREE admission to the show for all teachers on Sunday, October 5
- Half off admission (\$4 instead of \$8) to the show for all teachers on Friday, Oct. 3 and Saturday, Oct. 4
- This info can be found online at <https://www.southernazfallhomeshow.com/attendee-info/show-info>
- Show hours are 9 am to 5 pm each day
- Parking is free in lots B and C adjacent to the Tucson Convention Center Exhibition Hall

In addition to 200+ home improvement professionals, seasonal feature displays, culinary demonstrations by local chefs, Artisans Market, and rescue pet area, the show will feature presentations by cooking experts Julia Collin Davison and Bridget Lancaster from *America's Test Kitchen* on Oct. 3 & 4. All show info can be found at [SouthernAZFallHomeShow.com](https://www.southernazfallhomeshow.com).

[More Info](#)

Presidential Student Competitions

**START YOUR
PATH
TO THE PRESIDENCY**

PRIZES

HIGH SCHOOL	MIDDLE SCHOOL
1ST \$400	1ST \$200
2ND \$300	BEST PLATFORM \$100
3RD \$200	BEST POSTER \$100
	BEST SWAG \$100

**1ST PLACE WINNERS RECEIVE
A U OF A JERSEY**

 THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
Center for the
Philosophy of Freedom

The UA Freedom Center invites middle and high school students to bring civics to life through two exciting competitions this fall:

Grades 6–8: Create Your Campaign Contest — design a campaign poster with swag or another creative submission

Grades 9–12: Vote YOU for Presidential Speech Contest — submit a written + video speech.

Dates to Remember: Submissions due Nov 14, 2025

Awards & Live Election Night: Nov 21, 5:30–7 PM (featuring David Litt!) Amazing prizes available—for both students and teachers. Tap into civic learning, persuasive skills, and your unique creativity.

[More Info](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- Get your tickets to Stand Up 4 Teachers by **November 6**
- Buy your Jim Click Millions for Tucson Raffle Tickets from TVT

- Nominate someone for a Teacher Excellence Award
- Attend the SAZAEYC Annual Conference **November 14-15**
- Register for an Act One field trip
- Attend the Fall Southern AZ Home Show **October 3-5**
- Submit your entries for the Presidential Student Competitions by **November 14**



Donate to TVT

Your donation helps TVT celebrate and elevate teachers in Southern Arizona through a variety of programs.

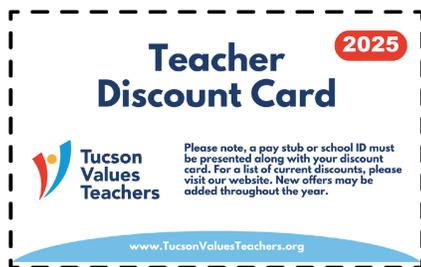
DONATE NOW



PD Scholarships and Mini-Grants Available

Southern Arizona PreK-12 teachers may apply for a PD scholarship of up to \$250. PreK teachers are also eligible to apply for classroom mini-grants up to \$500!

APPLY NOW



Save with the Teacher Discount Card

Visit the Teacher Discount Card page to sign up for the 2024 card and to learn more about our business partners and the special discounts they offer for educators.



TVT partners with CommunityShare

CommunityShare connects educators to real life subject matter experts to offer unique learning experiences for their students. Sign up today to get started!

LEARN MORE

LEARN MORE

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



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