

Faith & Values

Mission Federal Credit Union, Junior Achievement, Cox & Channel 4 Announce Results for Teachers "Thank You" Contest

16 area teachers are honored in award-winning initiative to promote the important role they have on San Diego County youth

The results are in! Mission Federal Credit Union, Junior Achievement and Cox Communication announce the results of the "I'm Thankful for My Teacher" campaign, which is designed to give parents and children an opportunity to thank the teachers in their lives for their hard work, dedication, enthusiasm, support and willingness to go the extra mile for students and families throughout San Diego County. The campaign, now in its second year, continues to exceed expectations with students sending in an impressive 7,345 thank-you notes to 815 teachers at 152 different schools throughout San Diego.

"We're very pleased with the response and student participation," said Tricia Link, vice president of community relations and business development for Mission Federal. "Students and par-

ents from throughout the County shared their well-wishes and gratitude for teachers who are making a positive difference in their lives. We have no doubt that this effort will increase the morale of teachers and education professionals who have been affected by budget cuts and unemployment worries for some time now."

The top six winning elementary, middle, and high school teachers who received the most thank-you notes were given a \$150 Westfield Shoppingtown gift card to reward themselves for all of their hard work. Additionally, the students in the classes of the winning teachers received a classroom party, or fieldtrip of their choice, and the gift of Junior Achievement's award-winning financial education curriculum taught in their classroom for an

entire school year, compliments of Mission Federal Credit Union. Mission Fed also rewarded the top six schools turning in the most thank-you notes with \$200 School Spirit Awards.

This year's winning teachers and schools.

Winning Teachers and Classes

Elementary School:

1. Maria Arjona, Fourth Grade - Otay Elementary School, Chula Vista School District

2. Felipe De La Pena, Sixth Grade - El Toyon Elementary, National School District

Middle School:

1. Zamaria Rocio - Science - Horace Mann Middle School,

San Diego Unified School District

2. Renee Robbins - Reading/language arts - San Elijo Middle, San Marcos School District

High School:

1. Kellie Larsen, AVID Teacher/Coordinator & Cheer Advisor - Point Loma High School, San Diego Unified School District

2. Kristina Campbell, Teacher and C.A.R.E Club Advisor - Sweetwater Union High School, Sweetwater Union School District

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San Diego Master Chorale Donates Concert Tickets to Local Schools

The San Diego Unified School District has seen a budget reduction of over 20% in the past three years. They anticipate receiving nearly \$100 million less in the 2010-2011 school year than in prior years. The programs that have suffered the most are those centered around the arts. One local arts organization is working to help promote music education despite the times. The San Diego Master Chorale is offering local school music programs free tickets to attend their upcoming concert: Cathedral Classics: Music for Choirs from Sacred Spaces Concert on March 20th, 2010.

This is a part of a larger effort by the organization to help boost music education in San Diego by offering an educational outreach program entitled "The History of Choral Music" to local elementary schools. Schools may elect to give tickets to students or to sell the tickets within their community to raise money for their school music departments.

According to Executive Director, Joanne Couvrette, "Community outreach is a big part of who we are as an organization. It is so integral to our goals that we include it in our mission statement. We are doing all we can to ensure that our children still have

access to music and the arts."

The San Diego Master Chorale has offered their education outreach to local schools for decades, but has expanded their program to compensate for state and city budget cuts to music funding. The program has grown to serve many more students, from just over 700 in 2008 to over 3,900 in 2009 and is projected to be presented to over 5,000 students in 2010. Tickets are limited, so schools who are interested in the free concert tickets or in a presentation of "A History of Choral Music" are encouraged to call the San Diego Master Chorale as soon as possible for more information.

The San Diego Master Chorale, a 501(c)3, is in its 49th season. The professional caliber group is composed of 120 volunteer singers, directed by Music Director Dr. Gary McKercher. The "Voice of San Diego" often performs with the San Diego Symphony Orchestra and at other venues across the county.

To see the San Diego Master Chorale in concert, please come to the Cathedral Classics concert at St. Paul's Cathedral Saturday March 20th at 8:00pm or visit

www.sdmasterchorale.org for upcoming concert information.

CHURCHES IN OR NEAR MISSION VALLEY

For your convenience

Holy Angels Byzantine Catholic Church
2235 Galahad Road
858-277-2511

First United Methodist
2111 Camino Del Rio South
619-297-4366

First Assembly of God
8404 Phyllis Place
858-560-1870

Calvary Southern Baptist
6866 Linda Vista Road
858-277-7078

Immaculata Catholic
University of San Diego Campus
5998 Alcalá Park
619-574-5700

Immaculate Conception
Old Town
2540 San Diego Avenue
619-295-4148

Mission Basilica San Diego de Alcalá
10818 San Diego Mission Road
619-283-7319

Joyful Living Church
3505 Camino Del Rio South
619-521-4800

Holy Family Catholic Church
1957 Coolidge Street
858-277-0404

United Church of Christ
2877 Governor Drive
858 453 3444

Your Church or Synagogue can be listed here.
Please call 619-291-0200.