



GGEA I Make a Difference Award



The Human Rights Committee recognizes GGEA members who make a positive contribution outside of the classroom with the "I Make a Difference Award." This award is given to members who volunteer their time and energy to benefit the school community or the community at large.

Nominations should be submitted to the GGEA Human Rights Committee via email to humanrights@ggea.org. Nominations can be submitted by a single member, by a group of members, or by the entire school staff. Please include the following in your nomination:

- The nominee's name, school and contact information
- His/her specific contribution (please provide details)
- Your name and contact information

Each month, the committee will honor an IMAD recipient at a Rep Council meeting and feature him/her in the *GGEA Advocate*.

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## PREVIOUS IMAD WINNERS

The GGEA Human Rights Committee would like to thank the following teachers for volunteering their time to improving our schools and community.

### 2019-2020

February – **Paul Doan** – Garden Grove High School – Dedicates countless hours as the Argos’ Academic Decathlon coach, uses his stipend to help get his students eligible for competition, creates a safe space for all students, and mentors many after graduation.

September – **John Miller** – Bolsa Grande High School – Ensures that all interested students can participate in one or more of Bolsa’s music performing groups by organizing fundraisers, building props for their shows (instead of buying them), preparing marching band for its new season during the summer, and leading students in school-wide, district-wide and community performances.

### 2018-2019

May – **Cherie Letcher** – Jordan Intermediate – Established an art club allowing students the opportunity to express themselves no matter what their schedules.

April – **Polliann Shimmin** – Allen Elementary – Works with Colette’s House helping families start over, advocates for children at Orangewood Children’s Home, and even helps our abandoned furry friends!

March- **Vicky Lieu** – Santiago HS – Promotes STEM curriculum and classes through school clubs, organizes northern California college trip to inspire future STEM majors, and has been a two-time consecutive class advisor.

December – **Bridget Lockhart** – Rancho Alamitos High School – Organized the GGUSD Homegrown program, encouraged school pride with the “We are Rancho” campaign, and volunteers with the Seal Beach Animal Care Center.

November – **Amy Osborne** – Stanley Elementary - Took a leadership role in her school’s PTA, organizes fundraisers for her school, completes earthquake kits, and runs the music program.

October – **Christena Harper** – Morningside Elementary – Special education advocate, writer and winner of a variety of grants to increase the amount of STEM activities.

### **2017-2018**

October – **Maura Mollner** – Simmons Elementary – Dedicated to her “adopt a family” program that ensures that families have winter clothing and provide students with books to read over the summer.

November – **Shelly Wellins** – Bolsa Grande High School – Helped create a soup kitchen that feeds hundreds every week. She helps collect food, cooks and is in charge of the soup kitchen once a month.

February – **Darci Gibson** – Mark Twain – Advocated bringing back the music program to the special education students at Mark Twain Special Education Center.

### **2016-2017**

September – **Jaydee Choompoo** – K-12 Nurse – Submitted a grant for students to receive eyeglasses and continuously follows up with families and their mental, dental and health care during home visits.

October – **Angela Nguyen** – Woodbury Elementary – Collect donations for the homeless in Garden Grove and Skid Row in Los Angeles. She also volunteers in Christ Church.

May – **Camie Walker** – Murdy Elementary – Implements exciting STEM lessons to her students, serves on GGEA’s IPD Committee and presents at a number of conferences.

May – **Vickie Miller** – Santiago High – Serves on a number of school councils and clubs and creates Christmas baskets for needy families.

### **2015-2016**

February – **Teresa Jackson** - Clinton Elementary – Founder and board member of Jackson’s College Bound Foundation which helps send students to sports and science camps and provides scholarships for underprivileged students.

March – **Tisha Voeller** – Garden Grove High School – Coordinates student participation in the Sister City Association of Garden Grove Exchange Program which sends high school students to South Korea during spring break.

April – **Kathleen Nash** – Rancho Alamitos High School – Organized a positive way for general and special education students to express themselves artistically through RAHS’s T-Shirt Club.

May – **Jisun Kim** – Woodbury Elementary – Organized a school wide recycling program and dedicates a number of hours to Woodbury’s running club.

### **2014-2015**

October – **Dr. Dee Chester** - Fitz Intermediate – Dedicated over 1,500 hours to teaching Disaster Preparedness and school safety.

November – **Kelly Nolan** – Paine Elementary – Committed to numerous charitable organizations, such as the Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation and local food banks, and to school clubs.

February – **Lloyd Stone** – Doig Intermediate – Fostered a growing parent community, created a scholarship fund for students graduating from Santiago High School, and created several programs that promoted community and culture.

April – **Diana Parcell** – Bell Intermediate – Created and openly offers a website loaded with science teacher resources.

### **2013-2014**

September – **Kristen McCullough** – Jordan Intermediate – Promoted the appreciation and participation in the arts by producing yearly musicals and organized fieldtrips for her students to enjoy the local arts.

January – **Amanda LaPera** – La Quinta High School – Serves on the board of the National Alliance on Mental Illness, Orange County and is the author of Losing Dad, a book about paranoid schizophrenia.

February – **Roben Alarcon** – Eisenhower Elementary – Organized yearly Christmas deliveries to disadvantaged youth in her school and community.

March – **Elizabeth Bryan** and **Kelly Anderson** – Bolsa Grande High School – Created a volunteer reading club and writers’ workshop for their ELD students creating a positive learning and college-going environment.

April – **Terry Shepard** – Paine Elementary – Helped raise thousands of dollars towards the Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation.

May – **Peggy Talsma** – Evans Elementary – Targeted student health by coordinating the Marine Corps Youth Physical Fitness Program for the past 20 years.

### **2012 – 2013**

September – **Quynh-Trang Nguyen** – Bolsa Grande High School – Organized the Vietnamese Culture Nights which included student, parent and community involvement.

November – **Janet Fettig** and **Anthony Maytorena** – McGarvin Intermediate – Coordinated numerous after-school and lunchtime events to promote community spirit and student health.

January – **Ellen McLeod** – Bell Intermediate – Led her special education students in planning the annual Thanksgiving feast for Bell Intermediate and counseled students and families.

March – **Alison Hartson** – Rancho Alamitos High School – Organized scholarships for low-income students and campaigned for SB 52 The California Disclosure Act, which pushes for transparency in political campaigning.

### **2011-2012**

January – **Jason Oda** – La Quinta High School – Advised the LQHS DJ Club which demonstrates its talents at various school events.

March – **Cindy Riberio** – McGarvin Intermediate – Organized the yearly Washington, D.C. trip and Career Day at McGarvin.

April – **Adam Wemmer** – Pacifica High School – Helped create and share curriculum featuring the history of the Vietnamese and Hispanic communities.

### **2010-2011**

January – **Adriana Alba** – Garden Grove High School – Utilized her training in inter-ethnic relations to promote tolerance and celebrate diversity as the Bridges advisor and serve as a GSA advisor.

March – **Dana Guns** – Walton Intermediate – Prepared PSAT classes for 8<sup>th</sup> graders; volunteers with the Boy Scouts, her community church, and with the El Modena Grad Nite Committee; and is a member of the Professional Auxiliary of the Assistance League of Orange County.

April – **Tim Acquarelli** – Crosby Elementary – Organized a sports league for students to promote student health.

May – **Jason Lupei** – Rancho Alamitos High School – Helped raise over \$20,000 for AIDS research and advocates against human trafficking.

**2003-2004**

Monica Hernandez  
Kendra Struck  
Merlin Allred

**2001-2002**

Gordon Enders  
Thanh Nguyen

**2000-2001**

Monica Hernandez  
Annelle Simmons

**1999-2000**

Nancy Jo Price

**1998-1999**

Lucy Ewell  
Kevin Ferguson  
Roxi Moore  
Karen Condon

**1997-1998**

Gail Martinez  
Christina Cole

**1996-1997**

Vivian Cutler  
Diane Acosta  
Sylvia Krenzien  
Stan Cowen  
Sharon Franke  
Joyce Yoo

Adele Pequet

**1995-1996**

Cindy Monty  
Bev Cox  
Ken Kunkel  
Karen Moeller  
Teri Rocco  
Ron Heusser

**1994-1995**

Loretta Kenney  
Claire Purcell  
Donna Moore  
Jane Zettler

**1993-1994**

Sally McAuley  
Sheryl Reyes  
Vivian Taggart  
Robert Crabb  
Dorothy Taguchi  
Marlene McConville  
Annette Watson

**1992-1993**

Vickie Toutz  
Sue Daily  
Barbara Zeno  
Kathleen Decker  
Emmy Lou Swanson  
Terry Shanahan  
Bill Fike  
Marelle Dorsey

**1991-1992**

Gayle Santiago  
Jean Blakey  
Hank Hodgdon  
Susan Martin  
Jim Keltner  
Ellen McLeod  
Sandi Poochigian  
MaryAnn Smith

**1990-1991**

Judy Easterly  
Carol Ulvilden  
Joyce Walton  
Judy Ishihara  
Rita Corpin  
Mary Dinius  
Alice Rumbaugh

**1989-1990**

Jackie Taylor  
Ella Broderick  
Carole McCormac  
Joanne Davey  
Colleen Rice  
Frosty Kaiser  
Carolyn Krutsinger  
Margaret Feliciani

**1988-1989**

Lynn Saito  
Jan Burwell  
Carol Schnitger  
Margaret Duhamel  
Ed Peterson  
Jack Sorter  
Barbara Barker