

Excellence
in
Education
2018





*We are what we repeatedly do.
Excellence, then is not an act,
but a habit.*

-Aristotle





Educational Employees Credit Union has proudly sponsored the Kings County Excellence in Education program for over 13 years.

The Excellence in Education Awards honors educational employees in three categories: Administrator/Manager of the Year, School Employee of the Year, and Teacher of the Year.

Those honored represent professional diversity and passion for education. They share this passion daily and constantly strive to form meaningful relationships with students, parents, faculty, and the community.

We extend a special gratitude to the selection committee, which is comprised of educators and community leaders from local businesses. They delightfully accept the challenge of reviewing all candidate applications and selecting the finalists and winners.

All of the nominees, finalists, and winners represent Excellence in Education. It is a privilege to honor these talented individuals who exemplify the highest standards in their profession.



Sponsors



 **Kings County**
Office of Education

Tim Bowers
County Superintendent of Schools

Message



Elizabeth J. Dooley
President/Chief Executive Officer
Educational Employees Credit Union

We are proud to partner with the Kings County Office of Education to sponsor the Excellence in Education program. These extraordinary people represent the best of the education profession, and we are proud to be part of this event to shine a spotlight on their achievements, talent and dedication. Congratulations to all of the nominees and winners, and thank you for your commitment to your students and profession.



Tim Bowers
Superintendent of Schools
Kings County Office of Education

Every school day school employees such as janitors, bus drivers, yard duty monitors, instructional assistants, cafeteria workers, secretaries, administrators, librarians, and teachers, to name a few, touch the lives of the over 27,000 students in Kings County. This evening, the Excellence in Education Awards Ceremony proudly recognizes their outstanding work. Along with their family and friends, this evening will be a reflection of their accomplishments, triumphs, and most importantly, their positive impact on the children in Kings County. I would also like to acknowledge Educational Employees Credit Union as our sponsor for this event. The Kings County Office of Education is pleased and honored to work in collaboration with the Credit Union to host this special evening.

Congratulations to the nominees and I personally extend a heartfelt thank you for a job well done and wish you continued success!

Program

Welcome

Tim Bowers, County Superintendent of Schools

Presentation of Colors

Hanford West High School NJROTC

National Anthem

Karen Edwards

Master of Ceremony

Jay Sayler

Recognition

*EECU Board, Kings County Board of Education,
and special guests*

Administrator of the Year Award

Jay Sayler

Employee of the Year Award

Jay Sayler

Teacher of the Year Award

Jay Sayler

Administrator of the Year

Nominees



Helen Copeland
Kings County
Office of Education



Marty Raeber
Corcoran Unified
School District



Finalists



Loretta Black
Lemoore Union
Elementary School District



Mary Brandt
Pioneer Union
Elementary School District

Employee of the Year

Nominees



Crystal Aguilar
Corcoran Unified
School District



Angela Mendes
Pioneer Union
Elementary School District



Finalists



Ruben Amavisca
Hanford Joint Union
High School District



Melissa Dufur
Lemoore Union
High School District



Lionel Garza
Lemoore Union
Elementary School District

Teacher of the Year

Nominees



Lucy Brieno
Kings County
Office of Education



Brent Cooper
Corcoran Unified
School District



Clinton Williamson
Hanford Joint Union
High School District



Finalists



Christopher Morshead
Lemoore Union
Elementary School District



Bryan Rice
Lemoore Union
High School District



Catherine Koelewyn
Pioneer Union
Elementary School District

About the Artist

Clement J. Renzi, a noted sculptor who was well-known in Central California, passed away December 1, 2009, at the age of 84.



Renzi was a native of Visalia and a graduate of the University of California Berkeley. In 1954 he accepted an offer to study in Vienna at the Academy of Applied Arts, under Franz Knezl.

From Vienna, Renzi and his wife, Dorothy, moved to New York City where he worked at the Art Students League and the Sculpture Center and his first one-man exhibition was publicly displayed. When their daughter, Jennifer, was three, the Renzis returned to California. In 1989, a 25-year retrospective of Renzi's sculptural work was displayed at the Fresno Art Center.

The casting of bronze sculptures took Renzi to Italy, Spain, and Mexico. He was especially fortunate to use the foundry of Lester Harry's, a Central Valley bronze caster.

Works by Renzi are in numerous private collections, and his public art can be seen throughout the valley in government buildings, education sites, and hospitals in Merced, Modesto, Fresno, Visalia, Tulare, and Hanford. The last public sculpture Renzi created before his death can be seen in front of the Merced County Office of Education.

Clement had a talent for capturing the joy of life in his art, and we are especially proud of the "Story Time" sculpture he created for the Kings County Office of Education. Clement was an inspiration to all who knew him, and his spirit will live on in the beautiful sculptures he created.

Past Winners

Administrator of the Year

- 2017 **Alfred Guerrero**
Reef-Sunset Unified School District
- 2016 **Sandi Lowe**
Lemoore Union High School District
- 2015 **Valerie Botelho**
Lemoore Union High School District
- 2014 **Jamie Rogers**
Lemoore Union High School District
- 2013 **Heiko Sweeney**
Central Union School District
- 2012 **Cheryl Hunt**
Hanford Joint Union
High School District
- 2011 **Carmel Draper**
Reef-Sunset Unified School District
- 2010 **John Partin**
Central Union School District
- 2009 **Eduardo Ochoa**
Corcoran Unified School District
- 2008 **LeeAnne Rossiter**
Central Union School District
- 2007 **Leslie Ann Steffen**
Hanford Joint Union
High School District
- 2006 **Gloria Graville**
Corcoran Unified School District
- 2005 **Sandi Lowe**
Lemoore Union High School District
- 2004 **Jim Bennett**
Lemoore Union High School District
- 2003 **Barbara Zaino**
Kings County Office of Education

Employee of the Year

- 2017 **Mark Burden**
Corcoran Unified School District
- 2016 **Amparo Vryhof**
Kings River-Hardwick School District
- 2015 **Cara Cummings**
Lemoore Union High School District
- 2014 **Linda Sharp**
Corcoran Unified School District
- 2013 **Liz Machado**
Kings County Office of Education
- 2012 **Olivia Muñoz**
Reef-Sunset Unified School District
- 2011 **Rick Chennault**
Pioneer Union Elementary
School District
- 2010 **JoAnne Fagundes**
Lemoore Union High School District
- 2009 **Patricia Hernandez**
Reef-Sunset Unified School District
- 2008 **Linda Leon**
Pioneer Union Elementary
School District
- 2007 **Paulina Gonzales**
Reef-Sunset Unified School District
- 2006 **Linda Cotta**
Hanford Joint Union
High School District
- 2005 **Cindi Homburg**
Hanford Joint Union
High School District
- 2004 **Shirley Garretson**
Kings County Office of Education
- 2003 **Erma Urias**
Kings County Office of Education
- 2002 **Darlene Stankovich**
Kings County Office of Education
- 2001 **Virginia Lafferty**
Lemoore Union High School District
- 2000 **Leslie Arakelian**
Hanford Joint Union
High School District
- 1999 **Robert Martinez**
Lemoore Union High School District

Past Winners

Teacher of the Year

2017	Mario Gonzalez Lemoore Union High School District	1998	Antoinette Draxler Pioneer Union Elementary School District
2016	Stacey Pagter Snodgrass Pioneer Union Elementary School District	1997	Tina M. Lopes Hanford Joint Union High School District
2015	Lisa Butts Hanford Joint Union High School District	1996	Catherine Seigel Lemoore Union High School District
2014	Zona Hoggard Kings County Office of Education	1995	Emma Glover Hanford Union Elementary School District
2013	Alisa Gomez Corcoran Unified School District	1994	Wendy Denham Pioneer Union Elementary School District
2012	Carol Smith Hanford Joint Union High School District	1993	Michael Higham Hanford Joint Union High School District
2011	Melanie Pulliam Hanford Joint Union High School District	1992	Joseph C. Taylor Hanford Joint Union High School District
2010	Kristin Duarte Corcoran Unified School District	1991	Donn Keith Hanford Joint Union High School District
2009	Jeremy D. Scholz Pioneer Union Elementary School District	1990	Kenneth Hill Hanford Joint Union High School District
2008	Anne L. Hoover Kings County Office of Education	1989	Rondaleen Specht Corcoran Unified School District
2007	Mark Tunison Hanford Joint Union High School District	1988	Bob Smith Lemoore Union High School District
2006	Gaynl Potter Hanford Joint Union High School District	1987	Barbara Black Lemoore Union Elementary School District
2005	Rae Ann Boyett Corcoran Unified School District	1986	Leonard DeRuitter Hanford Joint Union High School District
2004	Janet Chennault Pioneer Union Elementary School District	1985	Rose DeRuitter Hanford Joint Union High School District
2003	John Raven Pioneer Union Elementary School District	1984	Carl Eberly Hanford Joint Union High School District
2002	John Craft Hanford Joint Union High School District	1983	Harold Mackey Hanford Joint Union High School District
2001	Carla Lewis Kings County Office of Education	1982	Wesley Nichols Hanford Joint Union High School District
2000	Paula Anne May Hanford Joint Union High School District		
1999	Laurie Goodman Pioneer Union Elementary School District		

Special Thanks

Event Committee

*Leana Cantrell
JoAnne Fagundes
Lisa Franks
Araceli Hernandez
Nichole Hernandez*

National Anthem

Karen Edwards

Presentation of Colors

*Hanford West
High School NJROTC*

Selection Committee

*Linda Brady
Kim Burns
Carmel Draper
Kathy Farley
Carole Farris
Craig Gardner
Jeff Garner
Donna Kuntz
Jennifer Mendes
Suzanne Monroe
Paula Murray
Lavena Najera
Kristen Robinson
Joy Santos
Mike Wallace*



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