

Dr. Grazyna Zreda, AP Chemistry Teacher
Tanque Verde High School

Each fall, our elementary students have opportunities to learn from their older peers at Tanque Verde High School, where nationally recognized high school science teacher, Dr. Grazyna Zreda, sponsors the TVHS ChemClub. The ChemClub frequently organizes outreach events and activities such as the “Science is Out of This World” Science Night at Tanque Verde High School, and the Elementary Science Night at Tanque Verde Elementary School. Examples of hands-on activities ChemClub students do with the elementary students include making slime, analyzing properties of interesting polymers, doing artwork with shaving cream and dye, creating speed boats, and testing common household chemicals with red cabbage indicator.

Dr. Zreda was recognized as the American Chemical Society’s National High School Science Teacher of the Year in 2014, and she was the recipient of the 2017 Local Section Outreach Volunteer of the Year Award for the Southern Arizona Local Section of the American Chemical Society.



Ms. Alicia Marrano, Art Teacher
Tanque Verde Elementary School

We are very pleased to recognize Tanque Verde Elementary School art teacher, Ms. Alicia Marrano, who has

while she was in the Arctic during the first days of school. When she returned, Ms. Anderson brought back samples from the Arctic for her classes to study, and her students participated in collecting and analyzing data for the Arctic research project from their classroom right here in Tucson. Ms. Anderson documented her expedition experiences through an online blog, which may be found at www.polartrec.com/member/svea-anderson.



Ms. Londa Hopkins, Musical Theatre Teacher
Emily Gray Jr. High School

Emily Gray Jr. High School musical theater teacher, Ms. Londa Hopkins, is also recognized for her efforts to provide engaging experiences to support Emily Gray Junior High music students. Emily Gray Jr. High has developed a vibrant, high quality musical theatre program.

The program engages students in all

been named the 2018 Outstanding Elementary Art Educator Award from the Arizona Art Education Association (AAEA). According to Ms. Pamela Stephens, AAEA Awards Chair, "Alicia's service and teaching placed her as the top nominee for Outstanding Elementary Art Educator."

In the nomination letter from a member of the AAEA, Ms. Marrano is commended for "her commitment to developing K-6 art curricula that are readily integrated into grade levels... in addition [to] her emphasis on ensuring the relevance of art education throughout interdisciplinary curriculum including science, language arts, social studies, mathematics, and technology [which] has been a fundamental character of her career. She is widely recognized for her role in promoting the importance of art throughout the community."

Ms. Marrano and other award recipients will be honored at the AAEA awards banquet, on Friday, November 9, at the annual AAEA conference at the We-Ko-Pa Resort and Conference Center.

aspects of a performance, from designing and building sets, to stage management and acting. Around 75 students participate in the Theater Arts program at EGJH, which includes Musical Theater and Technical Theater classes. Started five years ago, the program has tripled in size and become well-known throughout the community.

Ms. Hopkins was recently awarded the 2018 Dr. Douglas E. Price Innovation Award by the Tanque Verde Educational Enrichment Foundation, receiving a generous \$8,000 grant for technical sound equipment. After receiving the award, Ms. Hopkins remarked, "It was an honor to receive the Innovation Award so that we can produce our own sound for our musicals - this not only saves us money, but also gives Technical Theater students a wonderful opportunity to learn the art of sound production!"

The district is fortunate to have exemplary teachers like Dr. Zreda, Ms. Marrano, Ms. Anderson, and Ms. Hopkins, who have been recognized for their service, creativity and innovation in the classroom. These are just a few of the many examples of the district's outstanding teachers who engage their students through creative and innovative programs, and who support and encourage their students' individual interests and achievements.

We thank all of our outstanding teachers for their hard work and dedication to our district schools and students on a daily basis!

We also recognize the support of our community and understand the importance of our community's involvement in the success of our schools. Tanque Verde District Governing Board President, Ms. Susan Fry, recently noted, "It is our community's ongoing support which allows us to continue the programs that we consider to be an integral part of a well-rounded education, but are becoming increasingly rare in other districts due to budget limitations. These programs include art, music, PE, library, nurses, and other special programs that make Tanque Verde one of the most desirable districts in the Tucson area."

The Governing Board will hold their next meeting on **Thursday**, November 8th, due to a scheduling conflict. The Tanque Verde Unified School District Governing Board meetings occur twice monthly on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the District Office, Governing Board Room. Please check for schedule

changes on the district website, as meeting times and locations may change.

TVUSD Governing Board meeting agendas and minutes may be viewed at the following link: www.tanqueverdeschools.org/BoardandAgendaMinutes.aspx.

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