

TEA Matters

Tucson
Education
Association

Volume 53 • No. 6
March 17, 2011

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 3/24 *Precious Knowledge* premiere and TEA red carpet event - Fox Theatre 6:00 PM
- 3/26 Cesar Chavez March and Rally Pueblo HS, 9:00 AM Walk to Rodeo Park Irvington & 6th Wear red TEA shirt.
- 4/4 TEA Board TEA Office 4:30 PM to 7:30 PM
- 4/10 Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure



Please join us for a special premiere of the documentary *Precious Knowledge* regarding the plight of students and teachers in their effort to save the TUSD Mexican American Studies program. Join us for a red carpet event beginning at 6:00 PM on Thursday, March 24th at the Fox Theatre. The movie will begin at 7:00. RSVP to luci.messing@arizona.org.



On Point... From Your President, Luci Messing



Why Wisconsin Matters

The Wisconsin Legislature voted to do away with collective bargaining for the state's teachers. This is the most dramatic assault on teachers' rights to date. Wisconsin ideologues found a loophole in order to take a vote without the 14 Senate Democrats who had fled to Illinois to avoid a quorum. We cannot nor should not be silent with regard to this latest setback. Help hold anti-union and anti-public education politicians accountable by contributing to the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education. Go to: www.neafund.org/main.cfm?s=NEA and click on "ACT NOW."

In a statement released immediately following the Wisconsin vote, NEA President **Dennis Van Roekel** said, "This is an affront

to teachers, nurses, students, firefighters, construction workers and other everyday people who stood up, spoke out, and learned how much their voice mattered to their elected leaders. The response will be unified and the collective voice of millions of working Americans from all across this nation will only grow louder."

I feel compelled to share this famous quote with you....

First they came for the Communists, and I didn't speak up, because I wasn't a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up, because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up, because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me, and by that time there was no one left to speak up for me. by Rev. Martin Niemoller, 1945

That is why we should care what happens in Wisconsin, why we should care about what the Arizona Legislature is up to, why we should care what is happening to Rincon and Palo Verde. Because if one of us is at risk, then **all** of us are at risk.

I want to thank the many members for participating in the rally on March 8th. Your colleagues appreciated the support. Let's stand with those struggling to defend collective bargaining rights here and in Wisconsin.

Sign the NEA National Petition for Workers' Rights; www.educationvotes.nea.org/nationalpetition

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Membership Matters 2
- TEA Blueprint 2
- Heartbeat of Educ 3
- Contests for Students ... 4

“Spring membership begins April 1st.”



Luci reading in Kim Smith's classroom.

Membership Matters

by Marivel Roybal, TEA Vice President

Free ‘til fall! Spring membership will begin April 1st and continue until May 27th. TEA will be working with Antonio Galindo from NEA Member Benefits. (He is replacing Sean Mabey.)

The promotion which begins April 1st is for **first-time members only**. If someone joins between April 1st and May 27th, they will get their first five months of membership free! Members who join during the spring membership drive

don't pay any dues until the fall. That's 17 months for the price of 12! They will be able to enjoy certain member benefits and will have to wait for other benefits to begin in the fall when they are dues-paying members. For example when they join they will receive the AEA Advocate and have access to the “Members Only” section of AEA. In the fall they will be able to use the AEA attorney referral program and be eligible for the AEA legal assistance.

Nominations to Promote Educational Achievement for Latinos

Excelencia in Education is accepting nominations for 2011 Examples of *Excelencia*. This national initiative identifies and promotes programs and departments with significant evidence of improving educational achievement for Latino students in higher education.

Submit your online nomination of programs and departments making a positive difference for Latino students at the associate, baccalaureate, and graduate levels. Go to the organization's website, www.edexcelencia.org, and scroll down to the section called “2011 Examples of ¡Excelencia! Now Accepting Nominations.” Nominations are due online through April 15th.

PD Information

Calling all certified and classified: submit documentation for your professional development hours, workshops, and classes to the TEA office. They will then be given to the Joint PD Committee for review. Up to \$450 will be provided for individuals. The allotted money will be disbursed on a first-come first-served basis until June 30, 2011 or until the pool of money is exhausted. Please submit your paperwork as soon as possible. Be on the lookout for TEA classes to be provided for members.

For more information, please contact:
marivel.roybal@arizona.org
(subject: PD submission) or call her at 795-8870.

TEA Blueprint*

- Luci and Marivel had a chance to visit Soleng Tom, Robins, Ft. Lowell/Townsend, and Lineweaver to celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday and NEA's Read Across America national event. Check out the pictures on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/tucsoneducationassociation.
- TEA will be walking in the César Chávez March and Rally on March 26th. The march begins at Pueblo High School at 9:00 AM and ends at Rudy Garcia (Rodeo) Park. Join us as we support all of our local labor groups.
- TEA will also be walking in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure on April 10th. Please join us by going to the website, www.komensaz.org. Using the “Komen Race for the Cure” drop-down menu, click on Register, then on Join a Team. Fill in the team name “TEAm” or use the Team Company “Tucson Education Association” and sign up to walk with us.

** The TEA Blue Print feature will focus on current TEA successes, achievement updates, and/or short reports on TEA.*

Heartbeat of Public Education

Congratulations TEA member!

Julie Kasper, Catalina ELD program co-coordinator, was highlighted in the press again recently. (See December *TEA Matters*.) She has been named one of 110 exceptional educators nationwide. As such, she will participate in professional development in a two-way, two-week, exchange program to Indonesia.

*Editor's note: The **Heart Beat of Public Education** will be a regular feature of the TEA Matters newsletter to recognize the accomplishments of individual members. If you know of a TEA member who has won an award or has otherwise been recognized, please email the information to Pernela.Jones@arizonaaea.org with the **subject line: Heartbeat of Public Education**.*



AR Jason Freed and ESP Director At-Large Kathy Schultz join others at the March 8th rally.



Howenstine Area Director Cecilia Castillo shows support for our negotiated agreements..

From Your Vice President-Elect

by Frances Banales, Lineweaver Elementary

It isn't necessary for me to tell you that our association rights, our professional rights and our students' rights for public education are indeed under attack. The political climate is probably the worst for public education than it has ever been. But please remember that it is a political climate and not public opinion. So while it may seem a challenging time to be stepping into a leadership role, it is for the very reasons I've mentioned that I am eager to serve our membership and our professional association as the newly elected TEA Vice President.

I want members to know that while I have set some organizational goals I want to hear from you all about the issues and the direction you believe our association must proceed. Our work will be challenging, so now is the time that we must persevere, we must join together and we must share in the responsibility to move forward and once again enjoy the work that we do. I look forward to hearing from you and our working together.

TEA members and supporters attended the rally on March 8th, a March4Schools event.

Thank you ARs for your assistance!



Tucson Education Association

4525 E. 2nd Street
Tucson, AZ 85711

An affiliate of Arizona
Education Association
and
National Education
Association

Phone: 795-8870
Fax: 795-8942

www.tucsonea.org

[https://
tucsonea.groupsie.com](https://tucsonea.groupsie.com)

Luci Messing
President

Marivel Roybal
Vice President

Pernela Jones
Executive Director

UniServ Director
Tommy Jones

Associates:
Laurie Damiani
Liz Navarro
Palmer Richey



Did You Know?

- Newly elected TEA officers and other Board members start their term on May 27, 2011?
- There are ten Area Directors who represent approximately 240 members each?
- You can find information about election results at: www.tucsonea.org under the Elections Results section.

TEA Members: Participate in Monthly Contests

TEA Members: Invite Students to Participate in This Month's Contests César Chávez Essay and Drawing Contests

Have your students write and or draw about the contributions that César Chávez made to the labor and civil rights movements. There will be 4 winners for the essays and 4 winners for the drawings (one for each age group):

Kinder - 2nd
3rd - 5th
5th - 6th
9th - 12th

The essays and drawings are due to the TEA office (c/o Marivel Roybal) by April 8th. Winners will be announced at the April 13th AR meeting.



Member suggestions or comments.

Ideas or comments about the newsletter.

Email: tsneduc@aol.com
Subject: TEA Matters