



TRANSCRIPT

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Title: 2022 OC Teachers of the Year Announcements

- Hi, everybody!

- My husband is here, what is going on?

- Well, we have a little change of plans. Dr. Mijares, as you know, our county superintendent of schools. He's going to share some information with you.

- We want to congratulate you and commend you. You are one of the 2022 OC Teachers of the Year finalists.

- Yey! Oh my gosh.

- Thank you.

- Thank you.

- Oh my gosh.

- Congratulations to you.

- I had no idea. I might gonna cry. That's so like... I did not expect this at all. So it's just very much, it's very humbling and at the same time, such a cool experience. And it's my honor to represent the county. I don't know, I'm speechless. And that lasts my husband that doesn't happen very often.

- You will also be receiving a \$20,000 check from the OC Teachers of the Year Awards Foundation which was established by Bill, Jeff and Jennifer Gross. \$20,000. We are here to salute you, to extol you, to show our love to you. Thank you for inspiring our kids every single day.

- And on behalf of SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union, we recognize and salute all of your efforts and all of your accomplishments. Congratulations.

- I am shocked. I am really shocked because I feel like there are so many great teachers and not only in our site, but in the County and you hear all the wonderful things they're doing all the time. And it's just such an honor to be included in that. I am truly shocked but it's the relationships you make with students, you know, that's a lifelong. And I think I'm very fortunate to be at Villa Park High School in Orange Unified because we have tremendous families and we have children that just really love learning and love to come to school every day and love to see their teachers. Those relationships, it's what it's all about.

- This is an honor. It really is. I can't do this without the people I work with. They're listening in the other room, apparently. This award and the recognition that goes with it, it is much theirs as it is mine. So I accept this on behalf of all of our alternative educators here at ACCESS, special schools. I'm speechless. I really am.

- There's just no way to compare teachers. Every year, every semester, it's a different subject. And so teaching government is ever changing and never boring.

- My parents have placed such an importance on education. And I think for my parents who were refugees that didn't speak English, like, these were my opportunities as being exposed to these wonderful pillars in our community. And it just turned into this really natural passion. I mean, it's just a chance opportunity working with individuals with special needs. And I just saw the impact that I'd made on their lives. And I was like, I don't want to get this up. It's incredible. Every day I get to see these students just shine and glow just because I'm here today.

- I don't do it for the adulation. You know, I do because I love what I do. I was like meant to be a teacher. It's the calling for me. So it's very humbling and that's why I'm overcome because, you know, it's been such a wild rollercoaster year. So just to be able to achieve this at a new school, you know, in the year of COVID, it's such an awesome experience. Like I said, I'm just honored to represent not only Capistrano, but also the County of Orange where I've grown up. Orange County girl!

- Thank you so much. Thank you. I'm just honored to be part of this bigger community. At the end of the day, it's really that we all have a common goal and that's to see every kid succeed. No matter what their SES, no matter what their background, we're all in for kids. And that's what makes us connected. That's what connects us all at the end of the day. I'm a winner every day because I get to do what I love every day and I make a living out of it. And that right there is so purposeful and intentional. I made it.

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