



2027 Orange County Teachers of the Year

Finalists

Megan	Avalos	Rossmoor Elementary School	Los Alamitos Unified School District
Kathryn	Cerasuolo	Hope School	Anaheim Union High School District
Kate	Green, Ph.D.	Golden West College	Coast Community College District
Ryan	Healy	Marco Forster Middle School	Capistrano Unified School District
Wendy	Saldivar	Loara Elementary School	Anaheim Elementary School District
Brittany	Walters	Dr. Peter Marshall Elementary School	Magnolia School District

Semifinalists

Randi	Beckley	Thurston Middle School	Laguna Beach Unified School District
Rebecca	Bonet	Valencia High School	Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District
Jennifer	Douglas	Tustin High School	Tustin Unified School District
Kelly	Heard	Clarence Lobo Elementary	Capistrano Unified School District
Kristen	Mulder	El Modena High School	Orange Unified School District
Stephanie	Nhim	Sonora High School	North Orange County Regional Occupational Program
Jamie	Ostrander	Kinetic Academy	Charter School
Jenner	Rasic	Golden Elementary School	Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District
Katie	Unland	Moffett Elementary School	Huntington Beach City School District
Devon	Zangger	Solis Park School	Irvine Unified School District

Nominees- Pre-K-12

Jeannie	Alkire-Brewer	Orangeview Junior High School	Anaheim Union High School District
Lareina	Ayers	Sierra Vista Elementary School	La Habra City School District
Jennifer	Ballogg	Hansen Elementary School	Savanna School District
Kristin	Bartus	Connections at Irvine High School	Orange County Department of Education
Darren	Canejo	Sierra Vista Middle School	Irvine Unified School District
Julie	Chaicharee	Fountain Valley High School	Huntington Beach Union High School District
Karen	Chavez	Olita Elementary School	Lowell Joint School District
Christina	Chong	Parks Junior High School	Fullerton School District
Courtney	Collins	Laurel Elementary Magnet School	Brea Olinda Unified School District
Ashley	Corlett	Trabuco Mesa Elementary School	Saddleback Valley Unified School District
Michael	Covey	Mendez Fundamental Intermediate School	Santa Ana Unified School District
Kristen	Currie	San Clemente High School	Capistrano Unified School District
Maria Elena	Enriquez-Carrillo	Garfield Elementary School	Santa Ana Unified School District
Carolina	Escobar	Wilson Elementary School	Newport-Mesa Unified School District
Loni	Gallo	Laguna Hills High School	Saddleback Valley Unified School District
Shannon	Gard	Serrano Intermediate School	Saddleback Valley Unified School District
Kathryn	Geha	College and Career Advantage	College and Career Advantage
Lisa	Gordon	San Joaquin High School	Irvine Unified School District
Cindy	Herrell	Estock Elementary School	Tustin Unified School District
Heather	Irwin	Panorama Elementary School	Orange Unified School District
Jeannie	Kim	Frank Vessels Elementary School	Cypress School District
Amanda	Kitahara	William T. Newland Elementary School	Fountain Valley School District
Rich	Liem	Troy High School	Fullerton Joint Union High School District
Patricia	Macias	Orange Grove Elementary School	Anaheim Elementary School District
John	McGilligan	Marina High School	Huntington Beach Union High School District
Erica	Neumann	Lutheran High School of Orange County	Private School
Kim	Nguyen	Oxford Academy	Anaheim Union High School District
Dennis	Nicolosi	Mesa View Middle School	Ocean View School District
Donna	Page	Genevieve Crosby Elementary School	Garden Grove Unified School District
Roxana	Rain	Horace Ensign Intermediate School	Newport-Mesa Unified School District
Tara	Roberts	Lampson Elementary School	Orange Unified School District
Rachael	Skoug	Laguna Road Elementary School	Fullerton School District
Bill	Snyder	Godinez Fundamental High School	Santa Ana Unified School District
Kat	Terhune	Gordon H. Beatty Middle School	Buena Park School District
Jen	Torshizi	George B. Miller Elementary School	Centralia Elementary School District
Melissa	Towning	Dr. Russell I. Johnson Middle School	Westminster School District
Larinda	Val Kotani	R.F. Hazard Elementary School	Garden Grove Unified School District
Kelly	Virden	Sonora High School	Fullerton Joint Union High School District
Jeanne	Wu	Santiago High School	Garden Grove Unified School District
Daniel K.	Zimmerman	Coastline Regional Occupational Program	Coastline Regional Occupational Program



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Nominees- Community Colleges

Taylor	Brooks	Saddleback College	South Orange County Community College District
Scott	James	Santiago Canyon College	Rancho Santiago Community College District
Karissa	Lovero, Ph.D	Orange Coast College	Coast Community College District
Rufaro Eunice	Matikinyidze	North Orange Continuing Education	North Orange County Community College District
Kelly	Nelson-Wright	Fullerton College	North Orange County Community College District
Gabriel	Shweiri	Santa Ana College	Rancho Santiago Community College District
Foster	Stanback	Cypress College	North Orange County Community College District
Deanna	Valdez	Irvine Valley College	South Orange County Community College District
Hao-Nhien	Vu	Coastline College	Coast Community College District