

Congratulations Lamorinda Teachers of the Year!

**Yvonne Anast, Mathematics,
Orinda Intermediate, Orinda**

"This is my first time (receiving the Teacher of the Year recognition) and I am very honored," said Anast. "I feel happy that I have been able to make a connection with my students."

Anast thinks that the award will only enhance the learning experience of her students.

"My students have high expectations and I know that I will need to continue to provide them with a solid foundation and a keen understanding of math in order to be successful in high school, college and life," said Anast. "I wish for each of them the love of math and the ability to use [it] where they see fit."

-N. Lossing

**Scott Turner, 3rd Grade,
Burton Valley Elementary, Lafayette**

Scott Turner says, "The greatest reward in my profession isn't receiving the best standardized test score. I believe there is no greater reward than seeing a student's self-esteem flourish. Year after year, there are reluctant students that enter my classroom. Some are shy, some feel they are not smart enough to perform in front of their peers, or some are fearful of making mistakes. I work hard to ensure my students feel good about their accomplishments. My reward comes from setting up a healthy environment where my students are more focused on the positive aspects of their peers, and they work together as a team to embrace social and academic growth."

-C. Tyson

**Leann Pfeiffer-Nixdorff, 5th grade,
Camino Pablo Elementary, Moraga**

Children in Ms Pfeiffer's (now Mrs. Nixdorff) class at Camino Pablo remember a very special classroom atmosphere where experimenting and learning with peers felt safe and productive. Ms. Pfeiffer, who has been teaching for 11 years in the Moraga district, is well known by staff, parents and children for her enthusiasm for teaching and the way she prepares children for entering middle school by fostering dependability, responsibility and cooperation. Her love for children and keen understanding of each child's special gifts and abilities make her a perfect recipient of the teacher of the year award.

-S. Bracinni

**Molly Henrikson, History, Campolindo,
Acalanes Union High School District**

Currently teaching both World History and AP European History, Henrikson is well known for her unique approach to teaching seemingly bland topics. By using simulations of historic trials and other fun activities, Henrikson has a knack for connecting both intellectually and emotionally with her students. Upon winning the prestigious award, Henrikson commented, "I feel very honored and humbled by the recognition. The district has many excellent teachers and to be singled out is a true honor. Additionally, I am thankful to have had such wonderfully engaging and challenging students while teaching at Campo -the learning process has been reciprocal."

Ms. Henrikson is a finalist in the Contra Costa County Teacher of the Year competition.

-S. Henningsen



Scott Turner



Molly Henrikson

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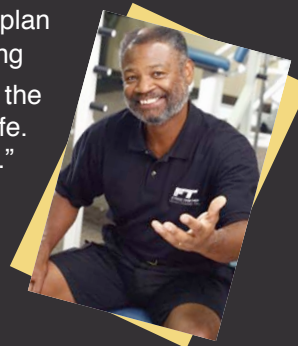
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