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For Immediate Release

Raytheon honors three Pima County teachers with 2017 Leaders in Education award

TUCSON, Ariz., (Feb.17, 2017) — Three local teachers received the second annual Raytheon Leaders in Education Awards for their exceptional teaching skills and demonstrated commitment to improving education outside of their classrooms.

Raytheon established the award to recognize and reward Pima County teachers in grades K-12 who are achieving outstanding classroom performance, demonstrating leadership in their schools and communities, and supporting their peers in a committed teacher workforce.

The three award recipients were selected from among nine finalists through a rigorous evaluation process that considered more than 50 individual applications by area teachers. Raytheon will present each winning teacher with \$2,500. The company will also give \$2,500 to the winners' respective schools. During the next 12 months, the teachers will meet with business and political leaders to share classroom success stories and find common ground in advocating for advancements in education.

"These winners and finalists demonstrated remarkable dedication to students and families, fellow educators and entire communities," said Jon Kastle, vice president, Raytheon Missile Systems Communications. "Our business, and all other area employers, benefit greatly from a talented and strongly committed teacher workforce that is supported by the entire community."

"Recognizing exceptional educators for the leadership, professionalism, dedication and passion that they bring to their classrooms and students every day is at the heart of Tucson Values Teachers' mission," said Katie Rogerson, Chief Operating Officer, Tucson Values Teachers.

The teachers will receive their awards during the Stand Up 4 Teachers celebration, Thursday, April 6, 2017, 5:30-7PM, at The Westin La Paloma. Tickets and other details are available at <http://www.tucsonvaluesteachers.org>. Event proceeds benefit Tucson Values Teachers.

2017 Raytheon Leaders in Education Award winners:

Jessica Howell, 3rd Grade Teacher. Hendricks Elementary, Flowing Wells Unified School District. Jessica has a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from the University of Arizona and Master's Degree in Education from Northern Arizona University. She is a member of the National, Arizona, and Flowing Wells Education Associations and currently serves as 2nd Vice President of Delta Kappa Gamma, where she supports new teachers and organizations such as Miracle Square and World Fellowship Fund.

Lauren Marlatt, 6th-8th Grade Teacher, Coronado K-8, Amphitheater Public Schools. Lauren has a Bachelor's of Science, Family Studies and Human Development, as well as a Master's in Education, from the University of Arizona. She is a member of the National Science Teacher Association, and has served as department chair for middle school science for 8 years.

Steven Uyeda, Sunnyside High School, Sunnyside Unified School District. Steven has a Bachelor of Arts in Biological Sciences from University of California, Berkeley and a Master's in Education from the University of Arizona. He is a member of both the National and Arizona Science Teachers Associations. In 2016, he was awarded the STAR Master Teacher of the Year for Sunnyside High school.

Award finalists:

Grades K-6

- Brie Anna Barber, Walter Douglas Elementary, Flowing Wells Unified School District
- Sandra Schiffman, Helen Keeling Elementary, Amphitheater Public Schools

Grades 7-8

- Mary Garcia, Corona Foothills Middle School, Vail Unified School District
- Kristina Laborin, Old Vail Middle School, Vail Unified School District

Grades 9-12

- Andrew Lettes, Pueblo High School, Tucson Unified School District
- Elyse Adams, Flowing Wells High School, Flowing Wells Unified School District

About Tucson Values Teachers

Tucson Values Teachers (TVT) is a regional initiative determined to engage the southern Arizona community in not just talking about the importance of education but also taking action to attract, retain and support teachers. The organization recognizes the critical role teachers play in student achievement and the vital influence they have on Tucson's future. For more information and to support TVT, visit tucsonvaluesteachers.org or call (520) 327-7619.

About Raytheon

Raytheon Company, with 2016 sales of \$24 billion and 63,000 employees, is a technology and innovation leader specializing in defense, civil government and cybersecurity solutions. With a history of innovation spanning 95 years, Raytheon provides state-of-the-art electronics, mission systems integration, C5ITM products and services, sensing, effects, and mission support for customers in more than 80 countries. Raytheon is headquartered in Waltham, Massachusetts. Follow us on Twitter @Raytheon.