

PRESS RELEASE

West Palm Conservatory Teacher Selected for Teachers R Heroes Honors

Victorville, December 7, 2011... Students and staff at West Palm Conservatory know how to throw a party. When Pamela Van Oosbree was called out of the crowd, which completely filled the auditorium at this performing arts school, it seemed more like a queen for a day celebration than a traditional school assembly. Principal Jackie Lester had only to share the secret of the selection with a few teachers and student leaders, and the rest of the morning's magic materialized in a colorful celebration of teacher success. Balloons in the color scheme of the San Diego Chargers (Mrs. Van Oosbree's favorite team), a decorated throne chair centrally placed on stage, the entire student leadership team, family members hidden from view and an enthusiastic audience made this event one of the most memorable for organizers of the Teachers R Heroes program.

Mrs. Van Oosbree received more than one nomination. One parent wrote, "She is a teacher that goes beyond the call of duty for not only her students but for the school. She is ready and willing to help in any way. Mrs. Van Oosbree teaches a class of 34 students and every day, all day long, she not only has a smile on her face, but she is actually still peppy! She truly cares about each student at the school. I have never seen this woman stressed out or look overwhelmed; to me she must really love her job and those kids that she teaches. As a parent, it is so comforting to know that when my child steps into her classroom she is noticed and cared for, just like every student that enters her room. I thank her for being such a naturally giving and caring person. She was born to teach and thank goodness she is my child's teacher."

Another parent wrote, "Mrs. Van Oosbree is an amazing woman. Not only does she advise the student leadership for the kids at the school, but she also runs the Sunshine group for the teachers. Mrs. Van Oosbree helps out at every event that the school has. She is a big supporter of the school's booster club. She has taken her students on outside community service events such as the Victorville clean up. She runs car washes, bake sales, and participates in the Victorville Christmas Parade. Along with all the extra time she puts in to outside events, she still makes time to teach her students and they are thriving. She loves it all! She was on the Price is Right wearing her West Palms shirt. She is always supporting the school and the city in any way she can." She deserves this honor.

The "Teachers are Heroes" program is sponsored by Victor Valley College, El Dorado Broadcasting, and the Daily Press. School participation is coordinated through San Bernardino County Schools. Participating businesses and agencies include Little Caesars Pizza, Red Robin Restaurants, Vitelli's Deli, Reed Foods, Victorville Speed Wash, Ultra Star Theaters, Horace Mann- Robert Stepanian, Edible Arrangements, and Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt.

Teacher nominations may be submitted in the form of 500 words-or-less essays to www.KATCOUNTRY1007.com, www.Y102FM.com, www.TheFox106.com, www.Talk960.com, or www.vvc.edu. Nominations may also be sent by mail to Victor Valley College, Teachers are Heroes, 18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA 92395, attention Dr. Lori Kildal.