

Victor Valley College Press Release

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For Immediate Release

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Hesperia Pre-School Teacher Honored as Teacher of the Month

Jennie Morris, pre-school teacher at Just 4 Kids Pres-School in Hesperia was honored this week as the Teacher of the Month in the Teachers are Heroes Program sponsored by Victor Valley College, San Bernardino County Schools, Clear Channel Radio, and Desert Community Bank.

In the nomination letter submitted by a classroom volunteer, Ms. Morris was described as a wonderful, intelligent and loving person. The essay portrayed Ms. Morris as a teacher very creative and totally involved with her students. “Her love, compassion, and patience are boundless. She works many hours in and outside the classroom for the benefit of her students. Her love for them is reflected by the way they all love her in return. She participates in field trips by driving the students and finding ways to open their minds to new learning experiences.

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Her classroom is fun and educational,” said Mrs. Susie Ponzo in her nomination letter. Mrs. Ponzo is the mother of Brandon Ponzo who was a former student at the school and was tragically killed when hit by a car. “We are so devastated and Ms. Morris was one of the first calls to our home. She loved Brandon very much and has supported our family by being with us through all of this. She created beautiful pictures of our son and passed them out at his service. She also made our family a beautiful Photo/Poem Tribute. Mrs. Morris’ husband was recently injured in a robbery attempt, and her family was directly affected by Hurricane Katrina. She did not hesitate to go there to help. I think she is a hero in many ways, more than I can mention here. She is always ready to help anyone in need. She is kind, loving, and graceful. Ms. Morris continues to work hard caring for her students, her family and her friends. She is artistic, creative and a tremendous role model. My son, Brandon, absolutely adored Jennie. She was a big influence for good in his life as well as in mine. I feel she more than deserves the honor of being called a Hero. She certainly is in the eyes and hearts of our family,” stated Mrs. Ponzo in her letter.

The Teachers are Heroes Program honors one teacher every month out of the nearly 7,000 teachers in the High Desert. Teachers are selected based on essays submitted to Clear Channel Radio stations and then reviewed by a panel of judges.

Honorees receive gift certificates for school supplies, a recognition plaque, and special treats for the classroom. At the end of the year, all twelve honorees and their students will be invited to an annual celebration held at a Maverick Stadium.

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“We are honoring teachers who go above and beyond, be it in the classroom, the school, or the community,” said Lori Kildal, Ph.D. dean of instruction at Victor Valley College. Teacher nominations may be submitted in the form of 500 words-or-less essays to www.KATCOUNTRY1007.com, www.Y102FM.com, www.TheFox106.com, or 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.

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