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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



Charles Ding at the World Journal Honored for Excellence in Education Reporting



Charles Ding receives California School Boards Association's inaugural Golden Quill Award, recognizing the essential role journalists play in increasing understanding of public schools

Alhambra, Calif., December 20, 2018 — Charles Ding, Education reporter for the World Journal, the largest Chinese language newspaper in the U. S., has been chosen as one of 25 recipients of

the Golden Quill Award, presented in recognition of fair, insightful and accurate reporting on public school news by journalists in print, broadcast and online news media. The inaugural 2018 Golden Quill Awards are presented by the California School Boards Association to recognize outstanding education journalism and highlight the essential role journalists play in increasing understanding of the objectives, operations, accomplishments, challenges and opportunities related to public schools.

Charles Ding will be honored by the Alhambra Unified Board of Education at their January 15, 2019, meeting. CSBA will also issue a press release and publish winners on its website (www.csba.org) and in the winter 2018 edition of California Schools Magazine.

As a longtime resident of the richly diverse City of Alhambra, Charles Ding has dedicated more than 20 years to education reporting for the World Journal, a newspaper whose goals include supporting the Asian American community and creating a link with American main society. “As a local ethnic reporter, it is my duty to help Asian communities in the San Gabriel Valley understand the vital role that AUSD plays for their children and families. I want to build a bridge between Alhambra USD and the local Asian immigrant communities,” Ding says. “I think education is the only way to help new immigrant families fight for a better life.” He adds, “Without the commitment of AUSD, these families cannot make it.”

Alhambra USD Board of Education President, Bob Gin, says, “We can never thank Charles enough for working so tirelessly to bridge the communication gap with our Chinese parents in the district. Charles is truly the inspiring bridge-builder the world needs to expand community understanding of public education.”

Denise Jaramillo, AUSD Superintendent echoes those sentiments, “Charles is such a believer in the transformative power of public education and such a trusted member of the community, he makes an enormous contribution to our students and families and to the district as a whole.”

School districts and boards of education nominate journalists for the Golden Quill Award by highlighting work that was reported in an accurate and insightful manner with stories that demonstrate holistic understanding of the local school district and its stakeholders. Nominees must have also developed relationships with the school board and relevant district and site-level staff, in addition to a conveying their grasp of the district or county office of education’s missions, goals and strategic vision during the reporting process.

“Journalists who accurately and fairly explore the issues that districts and county offices of education face are performing an essential public service by providing meaningful insight into public schools, one of our country’s core civic institutions,” said CSBA President Mike Walsh. “The Golden Quill Awards celebrate strong reporting that informs audiences and illuminates the critical issues facing local schools and California’s 6.2 million public school students.”

To learn more about the Golden Quill Awards, visit the California School Boards Association's awards webpage at <http://bit.ly/2Quvhkr>. Check back in August 2019 for information on next year's awards program.

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CSBA is a nonprofit education association representing the elected officials who govern public school districts and county offices of education. With a membership of nearly 1,000 educational agencies statewide, CSBA brings together school governing boards and district and county office administrators to advocate for effective policies that advance the education and well being of the state's more than 6 million school-aged children. Learn more at www.csba.org.

AUSD is dedicated to whole student excellence, equity and social emotional learning for a richly diverse PK-12 community of nearly 17,000 students at 19 school sites. A culture of inclusion and connection is at the center of the AUSD relationship-driven approach to education. Learn more at www.ausd.us

World Journal is the largest Chinese-language newspaper in the United States. It views its goals as "providing personal and spiritual nourishment for its community of Chinese American readers and building a direct bridge between Asian Americans and American main society," according to Mr. Ding. Learn more at www.worldjournal.com