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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



**AUSD Students: Thank a Life-Changing K-12 Teacher  
It Could Mean a \$5000 Award to Your Teacher and a National News  
Story by a World Class Writer**

*To keep great teachers in the classroom, the nonprofit Honored shines a  
spotlight on 12 student-nominated teachers each year*

Ask most people if they ever had a special teacher who believed in them when it seemed no one else did, and you will hear a stories about the one teacher they still think about, the one who forever changed how they think of themselves.

Ask most any Alhambra Unified teacher why they teach, and overwhelmingly, they say they teach to make a difference.

But very often teachers don't learn the long-lasting impact they had on their students. The nonprofit Honored [www.honored.org](http://www.honored.org) wants that to change, since research shows exceptional teachers who receive private and public recognition plan to keep teaching at their schools for nearly twice as long.

Honored is dedicated to keeping great teachers in the classroom and to elevating the teaching profession by letting them know their impact. To accomplish this goal, the nonprofit created a student nomination process because it values student voices and believes students give the truest testimonial to a teacher's impact. Every Honored teacher has made an important impact — either personal, academic or inspirational — on a student's life.

Twelve nominees from across the country are selected by Honored each year to win a much-deserved \$5000 award, and are empowered to help other teachers with a \$1000 gift card from Honored's partner [DonorsChoose.org](http://DonorsChoose.org).

In addition, Honored widely shares the stories of the profound impact these teachers have on their students, asking world-class writers to capture the poignancy of these stories.

AUSD alum and LA Times Column One editor, Steve Padilla, recently wrote about Honored award winner, Manuel Mendoza, a New Mexico high school teacher, and his student, Gabriel Holguin, who called Mr. Mendoza "the father I never had." Read Mr. Padilla's story at <http://www.honored.org/honoree/manue-mendoza>?

*Who can be nominated?* Classroom teachers of any subject, K-12, full-time or part-time are eligible.

*Who can nominate a teacher?* Current or former students, and parents on behalf of students (particularly the younger one or others who may need a hand with the online nomination form.)

*Will your teacher know about the nomination?* Yes, every teacher will receive a "You've Been Nominated" email from Honored. This email will include your answer to "How has your teacher changed your life?"

Gratitude is a gift that rewards the giver and the receiver. Thank a teacher today. Two people will feel good. Learn more at <http://honored.org/nominate/>

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