

## Laveen School student honored with “I Can Do It!” award

Each year the Arizona Council for Exceptional Children recognizes students for excelling, despite their disability, in areas such as academics, art, athletics, and community service.

This year’s “I Can Do It!” award recipient is Laveen

School eighth grader Taji Sneed.

He was honored at the February Governing Board meeting and will also be recognized at an upcoming conference hosted by the Council for Exceptional Children in March.



## Laveen students participate in Honor Bands

Several Laveen students across the district have performed in Honor Bands around the state.

Performing in the Southern Arizona Honor Band in Oro Valley were: Aidan Martin and Chleo Leon of Desert Meadows; Angel Molina, Lauren Salaz, Mia Coronado, Hannah Salaz, Angelina Baca, and Christyanna Wilkinson of Vista del Sur; Nadirah Muhammed, Nevaeh Foor, and Megan Schiller of Paseo Pointe; and Harley Guzman, Lilliana Faneytt, Ellerie Black, Matthew Barua, and Jhudiana Abarca Salazar of Trailside Point.

Vista del Sur’s Mia Coronado and Lauren Salaalso performed in the Greater Phoenix Honor Band.



## Five Vista del Sur students win art contest, head to Memphis

Congratulations to Vista del Sur seventh graders Selene Contreras, Arissa Perucho, Itzel Paco Montano, Pichlinna San, and Zariah Parker. These five students are winners of the Symbols of Freedom Art/Essay Contest sponsored by Southwest Airlines and the Phoenix Suns.

Participants were to write an essay on the topic “What does freedom mean to me?” They then found inspiration from their words to create a poster that was symbolic of their interpretation of “freedom.” Students in Mrs. Natalie Urick’s English language arts classes submitted entries.

All five receive an all-expenses paid trip to Memphis, Tennessee where they will tour national museums and historic landmarks. They will also attend the Phoenix Suns vs. Memphis Grizzlies game. The prize is valued at \$1,500 each.

Seventh graders residing in Maricopa County were eligible to participate and 10 winners were selected.

[View their artwork.](#)



## Kuster, Key are January's Employees of the Month



Kuster

Employees of the Month for January were Jennifer Kuster, M.C. Cash art teacher and David Key, M.C. Cash computer technician.

Kuster works tirelessly to instill a love for the arts in all children. The passion she has for art and how she wants to share that with her students is apparent. She loves to show off her students' artwork all around the school and often has students participate in community art contests. She leads the after-school art club and invites outside artists in to present to her students. She is in contact with parents and motivates students by using many modalities related to art.



Key

Key is more than the person who fixes computers. He talks with students when they are having a bad day, corrects behaviors, and takes it upon himself to act as a role model to all of the students. He engages with students even when he is in a classroom assisting a teacher or staff member. The students love to see him and he is happy to acknowledge and help any student who needs it. He is an integral part of his school community and jumps in wherever he is needed. Despite his full schedule, he delivers same day service and tackles all jobs with the same dedication.

### Laveen School students attend conference

Twelve students from Laveen School, a teacher, a counselor, and Principal Dr. Caplinger attended the "Speak Up, Stand Up, and Save a Life" conference at Grand Canyon University.

This conference focused on mental health issues in schools and how students can stand up and make a difference in the lives of their peers.



Stop by and see how Laveen schools are creating bright futures.



# OPEN HOUSE



Week of March 26  
at all Laveen schools

View the schedule at  
[www.laveeneld.org/open-house](http://www.laveeneld.org/open-house)