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NEWS RELEASE

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LAUSD TEACHER RECEIVES NATIONAL EDUCATOR AWARD Prestigious Milken Family Foundation Award Honors Excellence in Education

Los Angeles – Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) officials today announced that Sakhalin Finnie, a science teacher at Harbor Teacher Preparation Academy in Wilmington, is the recipient of a \$25,000 National Educator Award from The Milken Family Foundation. Finnie received the prestigious award at a surprise assembly attended by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O’Connell, LAUSD Superintendent David L. Brewer III and Senator Gloria Romero earlier this week.

“Mrs. Finnie is one example of the excellent instruction teachers throughout LAUSD provide on a daily basis,” said Superintendent Brewer. “Her dedication and commitment to improving student achievement is worthy of recognition and we congratulate her for her great work.”

At Harbor Teacher Preparation Academy, Finnie has improved academic performance among her ninth-grade students by involving them in creative, engaging, hands-on science assignments and lab experiments.

“This award is unbelievable. I am thankful for the recognition,” said Finnie. “I’m grateful for the support of my students and proud to be part of the staff at Harbor Teacher Preparation Academy. I look forward to more years as part of this great team.”

The Milken Family Foundation National Educator Awards program provides public recognition and financial rewards to elementary and secondary school teachers, principals and other education professionals who are furthering excellence in education. By honoring outstanding educators, the program strives to attract, develop, motivate and retain talented people to continue the challenge and adventure of teaching.

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