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amazing teacher AWARDS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS MONTH'S HONOREES



LOCAL HONOREE

LIZ MACIE

ANNA MURRAY-DOUGLASS
ACADEMY SCHOOL NO. 12

NATIONAL HONOREE

YADIRA MILWARD

Cathedral City, Calif.

SEE FULL STORY ON OUR WEBSITE

Liz Macie has been chosen as this month's Democrat and Chronicle Amazing Teacher for her kindness and outstanding work in helping children learn to speak English.

Macie is an English as a New Language (ENL) teacher at Rochester City School District's Anna Murray-Douglass Academy School No.12. She's been an ENL teacher for six years with the Rochester City School District (RCSD) with four of those at Murray-Douglass. Prior to joining RCSD, she taught English-language classes in Russia for one year, and served as an ENL professor for one year, she said.

When asked what inspired her to become a teacher, Macie said that from a young age she wanted to be a person that would spread love and kindness and that being a teacher would give her the opportunity to impact the lives of others in meaningful ways.

"I knew from a young age that I had a set of skills that were unique and filled with emotional awareness," Macie said. "Experiencing hardships myself, I had people in my life who supported me and made me feel valued."

Macie said a conversation she had with a teacher when she was having a bad day changed her way of thinking and influenced her to be that voice for others.

"I realized that not everyone had a cheerleader for themselves," she said. "The voice of a caring teacher is one of the most powerful tools to change the world."

Macie says her world travels and experiences with different cultures and languages helped her understand different barriers and "opened my eyes to recognizing the amount of hardship in the world."

"I realized that there are many children in this world who were not given unconditional love and a safe space to mature," Macie said.

"If many children don't receive unconditional love at home, they deserved to receive it at school," she said.

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*OFFICIAL RULES: No purchase necessary to enter. Must be 18 years of age or older to enter. Complete contest rules are available online on the contest page.