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\*High Resolution Event Photos Available Upon Request\*

Media Contact: Kathleen Mascareñas, [kmascarenas@azsuperbowl.com](mailto:kmascarenas@azsuperbowl.com); 480.481.8616; @azsuperbowlPR

## Six Winning STEM Teachers, Schools and Clubs Honored by Arizona Super Bowl Host Committee at Awards Ceremony

PHOENIX— It was an exceptional night out for STEM teachers like Monica Crowder of Tempe, who were recognized in an Oscar-style awards ceremony at Arizona Science Center. The long-time Kyrene School District educator was celebrated, along with STEM colleagues, students and schools, for her dedicated service from the Arizona Super Bowl Host Committee and Freeport-McMoRan as they honored 49 STEM Superhero finalists and six award recipients last night.



STEM teacher Monica Crowder receives award from Arizona Super Bowl Host Committee and Freeport McMoRan.

"It's exciting to recognize teachers like Mrs. Crowder who have spent two decades in the classroom as passionate educators," said Jay Parry, President and CEO of the Arizona Super Bowl Host Committee. "They truly are the unsung superheroes who are training our future leaders in crucial areas such as science, technology, engineering and math."

Forty-nine STEM teachers, schools and clubs throughout Arizona were recognized for devotion, exemplary teaching methods and innovation in three STEM categories: Most Dedicated STEM Teacher, Most Innovative STEM Club and Best STEM School. Out of the 49 finalists, six awards were handed out in rural and urban school classifications. The winners received a commemorative Super Bowl XLIX helmet signed by ASU football legend and NFL alum Jake Plummer, a framed photo depicting themselves as a superhero and a \$500 STEM teaching grant.

"The STEM Superhero Awards are an opportunity to highlight and applaud some of the great work that teachers and schools across the state are doing to motivate student interests and achievements in STEM subjects," said Tracy Bame, President of the Freeport-McMoRan Foundation. "We hope that the extraordinary efforts of these everyday heroes will inspire additional efforts that help students master



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science and math content which will allow them a successful path to higher education and careers in the 21<sup>st</sup> century workplace.”

The Host Committee selected 49 finalists out of more than 200 nominees over a six week nomination period. Additionally, 15 schools were selected to create STEM centerpieces, which were prominently on display at the ceremony and gave STEM clubs a unique opportunity to showcase their teachings.

**Below are the six Arizona Super Bowl Host Committee Superhero Award winners:**

**Most Dedicated STEM Teacher:**

Monica Crowder, Kyrene School District, Urban  
Pradip Misra, Bagdad High School, Rural

**Most Innovative STEM Club:**

CocoNuts, Coconino High School, Rural  
Team 842, Carl Hayden Community High School, Urban

**Best STEM School:**

Cradleboard Elementary, Rural  
Sierra Verde, Urban

**Congratulations to the Host Committee’s 49 STEM Superhero Award finalists:**

**Most Dedicated STEM Teacher:**

Allison Davis, Knox Gifted Academy, Chandler  
Barb Gosney, Imagine Schools, Avondale  
Barbara Cushing, Legacy Traditional Schools, Tucson  
Brent Kellis, Red Mountain High School, Mesa  
Catherine Wyman, Xavier College Preparatory, Phoenix  
Christine Sapio, Coconino High School, Flagstaff  
Dan Zavaleta, Desert Vista High School, Phoenix  
Dave Thompson, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff  
Deb Moore, Raymond S. Kellis High School, Glendale  
Diana L. Roberts, Whispering Wind Academy, Phoenix  
Erik Hertwig, Globe High School, Globe  
Fatima Mu, Smoketree Elementary, Lake Havasu



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Heidi Jacobson, Cooley Middle School, Gilbert  
Jake Henningsen, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale, Rose Lane Branch, Scottsdale  
Jennifer Cheesman, Zuni Hills Elementary, Peoria  
Jenny Frank, Copper Creek Elementary, Glendale  
Jim Clark, Hamilton High School, Chandler  
Kaci Heins, Northland Preparatory Academy, Flagstaff  
Krisha Leyva, Marana Middle School, Marana  
Luis Bleuze, Genesis City, Phoenix  
Marilyn Miracle Williams, Tavan Elementary School, Phoenix  
Mary Ann P. Cawley, Somerton Middle School, Somerton  
Micah Yorke, Sierra Verde STEM Academy, Glendale  
Monica Crowder, Kyrene School District, Tempe  
Nancy Foote, Sossaman Middle School, Queen Creek  
Nancy Parra-Quinlan, Kino Junior High, Mesa  
Phillip Howardell, Paradise Valley High School, Phoenix  
Pradip Misra, Bagdad High School, Bagdad  
Shawn Hardina, Campo Verde High School, Gilbert  
Stefanie Lump, Canyon Ridge, Surprise  
Ted Komada, Killip Elementary, Flagstaff

**Most Innovative STEM Club:**

Carl Hayden Community High School, Phoenix  
Coconino High School, Flagstaff  
Congress Elementary School, Congress  
Cradleboard Elementary, Whiteriver  
HeatSync Labs, Mesa  
Orangewood Elementary School, Phoenix  
Saguaro High School, Scottsdale

**Best STEM School:**

Arizona State University Preparatory Academy, Phoenix  
BASIS Scottsdale, Scottsdale  
Cradleboard Elementary, Whiteriver  
East Valley Institute of Technology, Mesa  
Gowan Science Academy, Yuma  
Higley High School, Gilbert



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Maie Bartlett Heard Elementary, Phoenix  
Navajo Elementary School, Scottsdale  
Perry High School, Chandler Unified School District  
Sierra Verde STEM Academy, Glendale  
Xavier College Preparatory, Phoenix

### **About Arizona Super Bowl Host Committee**

AZSBHC is a private, non-profit Arizona corporation that drives Arizona's plan for Super Bowl XLIX and is responsible for the \$30 million fundraising goal. The Host Committee plans and stages Super Bowl XLIX and all of its associated events in partnership with the NFL. In addition, the Host Committee is the catalyst to galvanize the local stakeholders in a united approach to maximize the positive media exposure, the game's positive economic impact for the region and leave a lasting legacy long after Super Bowl XLIX. For more information visit [www.azsuperbowl.com](http://www.azsuperbowl.com).

### **About Super Bowl XLIX**

The Super Bowl is America's number one watched television program and culminates the NFL football season. Arizona will host its third Super Bowl in 19 years on Sunday, February 1, 2015. Super Bowl XLIX will be played at the University of Phoenix Stadium. For more information, visit [www.nfl.com/superbowl/49](http://www.nfl.com/superbowl/49).

### **About Pro Bowl**

The Pro Bowl is held every year to showcase the best players throughout the NFL, as voted by the players, coaches and fans. The 2015 Pro Bowl will be played at University of Phoenix Stadium on Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. It will mark the third time in history that the Pro Bowl will be held in the same city as the Super Bowl. The game will be played the Sunday before Super Bowl XLIX. For more information, visit [www.nfl.com/probowl](http://www.nfl.com/probowl).

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