

Comal Independent School District

NEWS RELEASE

Comal ISD hauls in awards at annual communications conference

Comal ISD received multiple awards for excellence in school communications at the Texas School Public Relations Association (TSPRA) annual state conference in Austin.

Comal ISD received one Best of Category honor, seven Gold Star Awards and six Silver Star Awards.

The awards were announced at the TSPRA Star Awards Celebration on Feb. 23 at the Austin Downtown Sheraton.

Each year, TSPRA recognizes communicators in school districts, education foundations, education associations and organizations for their outstanding work in both print and electronic media. This year, more than 1,000 entries were received. The top entries in several different categories received awards.

For the second straight year, Jason Gordon, Comal ISD communications specialist, received a Best of Category award in one of the writing categories for his story, "On Their Way to Hollywood," which was based on the achievements of Sherri Painter's Advanced Film Production class at Canyon Lake High.

Gordon also won five other Gold Star Awards for entries in three different writing categories.

Gordon's Gold Star Awards included: "A Tale of Survival and Triumph," which chronicled the life of a Holocaust survivor that visited Canyon Middle School; "The Real G.I. Jane," which told the tale of a Smithson Valley High student headed to basic training after graduation; "An Inspiration In and Out of the Classroom," the emotional story of a Mountain Valley Middle School teacher's battle with scoliosis; "Taking the Road Less Traveled," a story about students at Memorial High School; and "Dr. Marc Walker: A Stabilizing Force," which was used when Dr. Walker was nominated for Superintendent of the Year in Texas.

Comal ISD also received a Gold Star Award in the Promotional/Marketing category for a 30-second commercial for Smithson Valley High titled "Welcome to Rangerland" that was televised on Fox Sports Southwest.

Silver Star winners included the Comal Communicator and SchoolLife magazine.

TSPRA, based in Austin, is a professional organization whose members are dedicated to improving public education in Texas by promoting effective public relations practices, providing professional development for its members, and improving communication between Texans and their public schools.

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