

# OUR MISSION

The mission of AEF® is to celebrate excellence and cultivate equity in PreK-12th grade Arizona public education, and shine a spotlight on the great work of public schools. We accomplish this through a variety of programs for teachers, administrators, and students. Some of our programs shine a spotlight on excellence; others provide a stepping stone to help support schools and educators. Arizona Educational Foundation was founded in 1983 by then State Superintendent of Public Education, Carolyn Warner, who felt a nonprofit needed to be established to champion public education and recognize the great work of public school educators.



Because of the generosity of our donors, the Arizona Educational Foundation **HAS INVESTED OVER \$15 MILLION** since AEF® was founded in programs that serve **PUBLIC SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT ARIZONA**

*Our programs and donations at work*

Arizona Educational Foundation programs **REACH OVER 500,000** students, teachers, & administrators in over **2,000 SCHOOLS** IN ARIZONA EACH YEAR



**GIVING ARIZONA PUBLIC EDUCATION**  
*the shine*  
**IT DESERVES**

# HOW *we serve* ARIZONA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## ARIZONA TEACHER OF THE YEAR®

ARIZONA  
TEACHER  
OF THE YEAR®

ARIZONA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The Arizona Educational Foundation's AEF Teacher of the Year® award program is the only statewide teacher recognition program that spotlights the contributions of Arizona's public school teachers.

The AEF Teacher of the Year® program annually honors ten exceptionally skilled, dedicated public school teachers. One is named the Arizona Teacher of the Year and becomes our state's candidate for National Teacher of the Year.

Learn more and take time to nominate a teacher at <https://www.azedfoundation.org/teacher-of-the-year>.

## A+ SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE®

The A+ School of Excellence® award is the highest state-level honor a public school may receive. Since 1983 this annual award has celebrated and recognized educational excellence in schools throughout Arizona, and serves as a powerful energizer for increasing public confidence in recognized schools.

A+ Schools are celebrated and recognized as exceptional. Earning the highly prestigious and coveted A+ designation spotlights the positive successes happening in public schools every day.

View application information, timeline, and program overview at <https://www.azedfoundation.org/a-schools>.



## teachSTEM

teachSTEM is an innovative program designed to address Arizona's critical STEM teacher shortage. Students PK-12th grade are taught STEM skills through career exploration and inspired to pursue degrees and careers in STEM, especially teaching.

teachSTEM is designed to not only inspire students to become STEM teachers, but also promotes the potential for students to return to their communities as educators.

Visit <https://www.azedfoundation.org/teachstem>.



## ARIZONA SPELLING BEE

Boasting one of the largest spelling bee programs in the nation, Arizona Educational Foundation has served as the state-level coordinator for the Scripps National Spelling Bee since 2001.

Did you know that the Arizona Spelling Bee Program is open to every Arizona student and school? Hundreds of thousands of Arizona students participate each year, with one student emerging as our state's official champion at the Scripps's National Bee.

View details at <https://www.azedfoundation.org/spelling-bee>.

## OUR WORLD

Our World provides training and tools for schools, districts, nonprofits, and businesses to build culturally inclusive learning and work environments and fosters open communication about the issues of bias, race, identity, and social justice. Training is free to any Arizona public school or district.

Learn more about all of our Our World programs at <https://www.azedfoundation.org/our-world>.



PRINCIPALS  
LEADERSHIP  
ACADEMY  
OF ARIZONA

ARIZONA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

## PRINCIPALS LEADERSHIP ACADEMY OF ARIZONA

One of the only administrator prep programs in the state for aspiring school leaders and first-year principals, the Principals Leadership Academy is designed and facilitated by Arizona administrators for Arizona school leaders.

Visit <https://www.azedfoundation.org/principals-lead-academy>.

## TAKE YOUR LEGISLATOR TO SCHOOL

What's it like to spend a day in an Arizona classroom? This unique program pairs teachers with local state legislators and gives elected officials an intimate look at the day-to-day realities of public schools in Arizona.

More details at <https://www.azedfoundation.org/take-legislators>.

