

12100 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 130, Reston, VA 20190
888.501.NABT | fax: 703.435.4390
email: office@nabt.org
www.NABT.org

August 7, 2014

Principal Cindy Montoya
New Mexico School for the Arts
275 E. Alameda Street
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Dear Principal Montoya,

It is my pleasure to inform you that Acacia McCombs has been named the 2014 recipient of the Outstanding Biology Teacher Award (OBTA) for New Mexico. Every year, the National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT) attempts to recognize an outstanding biology educator (grades 7-12) in each of the 50 states; Washington, DC; Canada; Puerto Rico; and overseas territories. Thank you for providing the administrative support and academic climate that cultivates outstanding science teaching. You should be proud of your staff and your ability to create opportunities for excellence in life science education.

As part of the award, Ms. Acacia McCombs will receive a complimentary one-year membership to NABT, and a gift certificate from Carolina Biological Supply Company. In addition, a local NABT representative will present an award certificate to both Ms. McCombs and NM School for the Arts. I hope that you will display your school certificate proudly.

In addition, all recipients of the 2014 OBTA will be honored at a special luncheon on Saturday November 15th, at the NABT Professional Development Conference being held November 12 – November 15 in Cleveland, Ohio. We encourage you to support Ms. Acacia McCombs's participation at the NABT Conference to not only attend the luncheon, but to experience the entirety of programming. We are confident that Ms. McCombs will share a wealth of information gained at the conference that will enrich your entire learning community.

We wish you and your faculty members well in your future educational endeavors and thank you again for your support of Acacia McCombs.

Sincerely,

Jaclyn Reeves-Pepin
Executive Director-NABT
Tel: 1.888.NABT x 102
Email: jreevespepin@nabt.org

THE LEADER IN LIFE SCIENCE EDUCATION

August 15, 2014

Cindy Montoya, Superintendent
NMSA Charter School
New Mexico School of the Arts
275 East Alameda Street
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

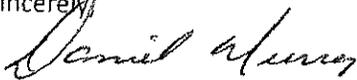
Dear Ms. Montoya,

I had the great pleasure a month back of visiting your school and collaborating with Joey Chavez and his team of teachers at NMSA. It was wonderful to be back in your state, and my wife and I had a fantastic time discovering Santa Fe and the surrounding areas together. I owe you real thanks for that.

More to the point, I once again found Joey and the faculty to be first-class teachers who put the students first in every consideration. They were open, passionate, dedicated, and ambitious, and my only regret is that we didn't have another day to explore and imagine an ideal theatre program. That said, I feel confident we wrung those two days for all they had. It has been awhile since we have done that kind of selfless, exhaustive inventory in my own Drama program, and the experience convinced me to apply the same kind of scrutiny here upon my return. I have Joey to thank for that.

Please accept my heartfelt gratitude for your part in this enterprise. From the very beginning, I was well taken care of and could focus intently on the mission of the retreat. I look forward to sharing strategies and goals up the road, and am always here as a resource for the New Mexico School of the Arts.

Sincerely,



Daniel Murray
Drama Chair
South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities
dmurray@scgsh.state.sc.us