Our awardee is from Texas and I believe that she started her teaching career in a New Hampshire High School. Eventually her family headed back West.

One of the nominations for our awardee states

She developed her mathematics education career promoting equity in mathematics education while focusing on teaching for understanding, teaching English Language Learners (ELLs), and making instructional decisions based on research findings and student thinking. Her teaching as a middle and high school mathematics teacher was always aligned with the goals emphasized by the NCTM in the late 1980s, and based on what is best for the children.

Another of the TODOS members who nominated this educator, states

“My first experience with her was a math class for teachers through a project called CRCM. This was my first time learning mathematics with understanding.

All of us in the class were so excited about going back to implement our new understanding of what mathematics is and how to teach it in a way that children would understand. Our enthusiasm then transferred to the hundreds of students we were teaching. All of this was due to her.

She worked with the Maricopa Community College District as Director of K-12 Mathematics Programs in the Office of Public School Programs in a large Metropolitan area. In that capacity she served as a Principal Investigator/Director/Mathematics Specialist in various projects funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF).

Classromm teachers were became TOA’s – they were called CPTs – Collaborative Peer Teachers and worked with teachers in the districts to help teachers use manipulatices to build draw record and explain which helped going from the concrete, to the symbolic and then the abstract.

She was the lead in bringing a diverse team of educators to EMELI (Equity in Math Education Leadership Institute). This project looked at ensuring we were providing a quality and equitable math program to all students. It brought to the forefront that we needed to ensure all students were having access to high quality math education programs.”

One of the nominations for our Awardee stated

When children are 20 years old and running into you at the mall telling you, “Hey I remember you, you came in to my classroom in 4th grade and did that math with us!” What more evidence is needed that the impact was huge!

Our awardee is invited to participate as a speaker at conferences throughout the country. The following quote from one of her amusing and engaging presentations reveals her high expectations for teachers in her challenging professional development tasks.

"When I work with teachers, I like to hear, 'you make my brain hurt.' That means, their minds had to stretch ..."

She was the Director of Professional Development and K-12 STEM University Partnerships at the Center for Research on Education in Science, Mathematics, Engineering and Technology (CRESMET) at Arizona State University; she was the Co-Principal Investigator of CRESMET’s Teacher Professional Continuum Project; Co-PI of the Maricopa Mathematics Mentoring and Renewal Project (NSF); and Co-PI for the Arizona Rural Systemic Initiative (NSF).

She was very involved in a Family Math project out of the University of Arizona in Tucson. She helped to write modules to help parents in turn help their children. Not only did she write some of the modules, she also provided some of the training for the parents.

She is a member of various mathematical organizations including the Arizona Association of Teachers of Mathematics, Women in Mathematics Education, and the. She is a founding member of TODOS: Mathematics for ALL, is a past member of the board of directors of

NCTM, and was the first Latina to serve on the Education and Human Resource Advisory Board of the National

Science Foundation.

She was invited by the NCTM to co-edit a book focusing on the teaching of ELLs The book, *Beyond Good Teaching: Advancing Mathematics Education for ELLs,* published in 2012 has been a top seller among the NCTM publications since its release.

Her kindness, understanding, knowledge, patience and gift of teaching others to have the same passion to make a difference is truly remarkable!

The recipient of this years Iris Carl Leadership and Equity Award is – Nora Ramirez