



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2018 NATIONAL FAME AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

NEW ORLEANS, La. – Oct. 31, 2017 – Basic American Foods, Schwan’s Food Service, Inc., and Tyson Foods, Inc., sponsors of the 29th annual Foodservice Achievement Management Excellence (FAME) Awards program are pleased to announce the 2018 National FAME Award winners.

The National FAME Awards’ most prestigious honor – the Golden Director of the Year Award – will be presented to Lauren Teng, Administrator of Food and Nutrition Service of the Huntington Beach Union School District, Huntington Beach, Calif., at an award ceremony Jan. 21 in New Orleans, La.

With 34 years as a director, Lauren Teng continues to build upon a long history of proven management skills and innovative, forward-thinking methods to improve student nutrition. Teng is a leader in modernizing foodservice delivery options in her school district to ensure that all students have quick and easy access to meals. Teng continues to grow her program even in the face of declining enrollment by changing the traditional avenues through which food is served to students.

Teng made lunch a more relevant part of the school day by working with school administrators to move the lunch period from later in the day to midday, introducing mobile food carts into the areas where students congregate for lunch, opening the first on-campus coffee house, and increasing fresh produce consumption by 150% by promoting classroom nutrition. Her efforts to introduce nutrition into the classroom include partnering school foodservices with science and culinary classes to link nutrition to the core curriculum. Teng instructs at the district "Summer Institute" to help teachers gain the proper training and tools to execute nutrition lessons in the classroom.

Teng was instrumental in securing \$175,000 in grants to modernize the school district’s equipment, including the purchase of a food truck to maximize service locations and serve as a contingency to ensure that production and service would not be interrupted in the event of disasters, utility disruptions or construction.

Her dedication to school nutrition is also exhibited by her involvement with the School Nutrition Association at the local and state level where Teng had served as the Southern California President, the Legislative Chair, and in numerous other positions

Teng’s commitment to child nutrition extends well beyond the cafeteria and into the community. She spearheaded a community health fair that encompassed child health and safety in addition to nutrition. She is a member of the Food Safety Advisory Council for the

Orange County Health Care Agency where she provides valuable input on health codes promoting food safety and sanitation. Teng also writes a parent newsletter and offers a series of classes for parents on nutrition, healthy recipes, and cooking when shopping on a budget. Teng's forward-thinking and active leadership in the field of child nutrition is indeed worthy of this year's Golden Director of the Year Award.

Additional 2018 FAME Award winners include:

Silver Leadership Award: Executive Director Chris Burkhardt, SNS, Food and Child Nutrition Services, Cleveland Metropolitan School District, Cleveland, Ohio

Silver Spirit Award: Assistant Director Karen Hallford, MS, RD, LD, Gwinnett County Public Schools, Suwanee, Ga.

Silver Special Achievement Award: Director of Nutrition Sally Spero, SNS, Lakeside Union School District, Lakeside, Calif.

Silver Rising Star Award: Nutrition Services Director Kelly Schlein, B.S., M.S., Richmond County School District, Augusta, Ga.

Silver Friend of Child Nutrition: Senior Instructor Beth Mincemoyer Egan, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pa.

For 29 years the FAME Awards have been honoring school nutrition professionals who raise the industry standards by tackling challenges within their school districts and communities. The event is scheduled for January 21, 2018 at the Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans, La., site of the School Nutrition Association's (SNA) 2018 School Nutrition Industry Conference (SNIC).

FAME event tickets can be obtained by visiting www.fameawards.net. For event updates throughout the year, visit www.fameawards.net or www.facebook.com/fameawards.

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For Additional Event Information, please contact:

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