



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Charter School Founder Awarded Global Business Award

Arizona businesswoman Raena Janes receives bronze Female Entrepreneur 2013

Tucson, AZ (11/15/13) – Arizona Charter Schools is pleased to announce that its founder, Raena Janes, was honored with the bronze [Stevie Award for Women in Business](#), for female Entrepreneur of the Year in consumer services for businesses with up to 2,500 employees. The award was announced Nov. 8 in New York City.

Established in 2002, the Stevie Awards mark achievement throughout the world of business. The Women in Business Awards are the world's premier awards for women executives, entrepreneurs, and the organizations they run. Like the Olympics, the awards given are gold, silver and bronze.



The bronze Stevie is the latest award for Janes, 40, who is founder and director of seven Arizona charter schools: La Paloma Academy, with three Tucson campuses; Heritage Elementary School in Glendale and Williams; and Liberty Traditional Charter School in Phoenix and Douglas.

The award recognizes Janes as an entrepreneur, managing seven schools in five cities, maintaining three charters amid a high failure rate for charter schools in the state, and mentoring staff for consistent culture and quality amid fast expansion.

An active advocate for Arizona education for more than a decade, Janes' schools balance an academic foundation with programs such as sports, arts and music that are increasingly affected by public school budget cuts. The character-based curriculum ensures that students at Janes' schools learn the importance of character traits such as trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. Proactive, long-term bullying prevention programs were introduced in some of the schools this year.

Each of Janes' charter schools also incorporates community service. An active member in several non-profit community organizations, such as Angel Charity for Children, Junior League of Tucson, the National Association for the Education of Young Children, Habitat for Humanity, Red Cross and the Advisory Council for the Arizona Charter

School Association, Janes is a strong believer in bringing community service projects to Arizona's youths.

For more information about Arizona Charter Schools or to interview Raena Janes, please call the contacts listed at the bottom of this release.

About Arizona Charter Schools

Arizona Charter Schools is a for-profit education management organization that partners with new and existing schools in need of guidance, support and direction. ACS is committed to establishing top-quality, safe educational institutions that offer the highest quality education while encouraging the development of strong character and a commitment to community service. ACS was founded by successful charter school operator Raena Janes, an active advocate for education for more than two decades. Janes is founder and charter holder of three charter school systems: La Paloma Academy, with three Tucson campuses; Heritage Elementary School in Glendale and Williams; and Liberty Traditional Charter School in Phoenix and Douglas. La Paloma Academy was awarded the State of Arizona's 2005 Excellence in Education Award. Janes focuses her efforts on education with individualized instruction, incorporation of extracurricular activities and emphasis on the importance of family and community values. Janes was named as one of 2012's Women of Influence by Inside Tucson Business, one of Phoenix's 40 Under 40 in 2011, Tucson's Mentor of the Year in 2008, and one of Tucson's 40 Under 40 in 2006.

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