



NEWS RELEASE

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Tina Shinsato Joins MfA SD as Mentor Fellow

(San Diego) September 1, 2012 - Rancho Buena Vista High School mathematics teacher Tina Shinsato has been selected as a Mentor Fellow for the Math for America San Diego Fellowship program.

"We're delighted Tina is joining us," Edwards said. "She is a highly regarded mathematics educator with a broad range of teaching and leadership experience. Her expertise and genuine passion for math education will be a great inspiration to our teaching fellows."

As an MfA SD Mentor Fellow, Shinsato will provide one-on-one, onsite support to selected new MfA SD fellows throughout their first years of teaching in San Diego County high need secondary schools. She also will participate in professional development activities, including an annual three-week summer institute and yearlong training sessions.

"I am honored to be chosen as a mentor for the Math for America San Diego program," Shinsato said. "I know the importance of guidance and personal support during a teacher's early years in the classroom. Mathematics is a challenging subject to teach and to learn. As a mentor, I can provide direction and insight to help new teachers develop successful strategies for improved mathematics instruction."

Shinsato has been a teacher for 19 years. Before joining Rancho Buena Vista High School, she served as a mathematics coach at Rancho Minerva Middle School from 2005 to 2010 and was a math teacher and department chair at Vista High School from 1993 to 2006. She is currently an adjunct mathematics instructor for the Palomar Community College District. She is also a participating instructor with the Palomar College Learning Assistant Program, a joint program with California State University San Marcos (CSUSM). She served as an interim instructor for the Single Subject Mathematics Methods and Workshop for Future Math Educators program at CSUSM, and provided onsite supervision for CSUSM teacher candidates, serving as liaison between the university and the school site.

Shinsato has been an active member of the San Diego County mathematics education community. She has designed and conducted numerous teacher and student mathematics institutes and presentations for Vista Unified School District, San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE), Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), Greater San Diego

Mathematics Council (GSDMC) and California Mathematics Council (CMC). She is an experienced curriculum writer, math consultant, writer and editor of online mathematics materials, and trainer for state mandated teacher training courses.

Shinsato is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Elizabeth Javor Mentoring Award (2010), California League of Middle Schools (CLMS) Educator of the Year Finalist (2009), GSDMC Karen Ritchey Award (2008), University of California, San Diego Outstanding Teacher Award (2005) and the Golden Apple and Liahona Award (2003). She received an Art of Problem Solving Grant (2007, 2008), and grants from ATT (2006) and the University of California Office of the President (2000).

Shinsato holds an MS degree in Mathematics from California State University San Marcos. She graduated with a BA degree in Mathematics from the University of California, San Diego. Shinsato and her family reside in Carlsbad.