



# Contact

Montebello Teachers Association/California Teachers Association • 918 W. Whittier Blvd. Montebello CA • (323) 722-5005 • montbelloteachers.org



## Suva Intermediate Teacher Is Published: Marco Vasquez

Marco A. Vasquez grew up in Montebello and went to schools in the District (Montebello Park Elementary, Eastmont Intermediate, Schurr High School) and teaches at Suva Intermediate.

His first novel, *Steven Isn't Normal*, was recently published by Floricanto Press, the premier publisher of Latino literature. The novel takes place in and around East Los Angeles and parts of Montebello. It has been very well received by readers and critics, and is available for purchase at Amazon.com.

When asked about himself, Marco offered: "I am a Pushcart Prize nominated poet whose poetry has been published in books and magazines throughout the country, as well as the author of four books of poetry, one of which was edited by Gary Soto as part of his Chicano Chapbook series. I am an award winning playwright who recently won the grand prize (and had my play performed) at the first ever TeatroMoz playwriting competition at Casa 0101 in Boyle Heights.

## Blanche Chester Teacher Advocate Nominations Are On-Line

### *Honor A Special Person who Supports Our Members*

You can submit a Blanche Chester Teacher Advocate Award Nomination on-line. Simply go to [MontebelloTeachers.org](http://MontebelloTeachers.org) and nominate yourself or a colleague by **Tuesday, February 24**. This honor is awarded to individuals who demonstrate strong Bargaining Unit member advocacy at their site and throughout the Association. Nominees and supporters of nominees will be invited to submit testimonial thoughts on-line in March and April.

A committee of past Blanche Chester winners will determine the winner based on input from members. The announcement will be made at the May 19 Council meeting. **The winner will receive a plaque and \$100 toward instructional supplies.**

Members of the 2014-2015 Executive Committee and past recipients are not eligible.

Blanche Chester Award Recipients	
Paul McKernan..... 1992	Pat Tonelli ..... 2003
Patricia Knapp..... 1993	Betty Kirschner ..... 2004
Robin GrayBallard .. 1994	Sharon Ramirez..... 2005
Karen van der Baan 1995	Marcia Ugalde..... 2006
Linda Moran ..... 1996	Walt Lowery..... 2007
Maria Cortes ..... 1997	Horacio Perez..... 2008
David Lebow ..... 1998	Elizabeth Gasca ..... 2009
Frank van der Baan. 1999	Terry SalasOrtiz ..... 2010
Mary Dupuis ..... 2000	John Slevin..... 2011
Juan Gastelum ..... 2001	Rita Galvan..... 2012
JoAnn Barro..... 2001	Margie Granado..... 2013
Lois Wankovsky ..... 2002	Julian De La Torre.. 2014

# A Deeper Dialogue

California Teachers Association  
Human Rights Department is  
Excited to offer:

## Unconscious Bias



Social psychologists and other social scientists have found that all of us, regardless of ethnicity, have cognitive biases that influence how we perceive and make decisions about other people. The behavior of human beings is often guided by racial and other stereotypes of which we are completely unaware. This training will guide participants through a deep journey of personal exploration for an awareness of the shortcuts and subsequent perceptions we make about people and our surroundings. It will also provide skills, through transformative learning, to increase awareness about our cognitive biases and offer intervention strategies.

The Program includes  
the following 4 modules:

- ⇒ Unconscious Bias is it Real?
- ⇒ Implicit Bias
- ⇒ The Assumptions We Make
- ⇒ Power and Privilege

**February 26 at 3:30 p.m.** (earn 3 DSC hrs.)  
**MTA Conference Center**  
**Bell Gardens Room**  
**920 W. Whittier Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640**

**This is an ongoing dialogue where commitment is the key to success.**

For more information or to RSVP please email us at:  
[MTA@montebelloteachers.org](mailto:MTA@montebelloteachers.org)