



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TKA Honors Melanie Geleynse, Maureen Ghioffi, and Brian Tucker with First-Ever “Making a Difference” Theatre Program Award

SUNNYVALE, Calif, March 21, 2022— On Friday, March 11, Maureen Ghioffi and Brian Tucker were recognized at opening night of the high school musical production, *Freaky Friday*, with the first-ever “Making a Difference” Award. Melanie Geleynse was recognized on Friday, March 18, during the second weekend of the musical. These individuals were honored for their extraordinary dedication and contributions to The King’s Academy Theatre program.

Melanie Geleynse began as a costume designer for TKA theatre in 2006 with *The Music Man*. Since then, she has designed, sewn, and managed costumes for over 50 shows. Her whole family has been involved in the theatre program, working tirelessly to support the “look” of a show’s era and genre. Even though she stepped back from being the lead costumer this season, Melanie has still managed the costume storage and laundry needs. Melanie’s dedication has been exceptional, and her talents have elevated every show she designed.

Maureen Ghioffi has worked behind the scenes for 13 years at The King’s Academy. She tirelessly poured herself into productions and will direct her twenty-third production, *Jack and the Giant Beanstalk*, in a few weeks. Maureen started TKA’s Junior High Theatre program, and though she had retired, she returned to work with our junior high students again. Maureen has provided leadership to the entire VPA department and has worked to ensure the continued relevance of arts programs

Brian Tucker has served as the sound design engineer on 50 shows over the past 13 years at The King’s Academy. His dedication to making TKA productions sound incredible is due to many hours of service personally upgrading the equipment and instructing the student tech crew on the subtle nuances of audio excellence. Brian has modeled a faithful servant’s heart.

Each of the honorees received an individual plaque as a keepsake, and their names are engraved on a perpetual plaque that is displayed in the Cabot Theater lobby.

The plaque reads:

“Making a Difference” Award

The King’s Academy recognizes these individuals for dedicated years of outstanding service and commitment to The King’s Academy Theatre Program. Their extraordinary efforts have made the difference between being good and being great. Each has earned our utmost admiration and respect in their pursuit of excellence. Thank you for a remarkable performance!

The King’s Academy, an independent, college preparatory school for grades 6-12, is a Christ-centered school that inspires academic excellence, servant leadership, and enduring relationships. The King’s Academy is accredited by both the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). TKA is currently accepting applications for the 2022-2023 school year. For more information about The King’s Academy, please visit the website at www.tka.org.

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