



## BEACON DAY SCHOOL AWARDS CEREMONY

**On Thursday, June 13, student achievements were celebrated with teachers and family members at the White House Event Center in Anaheim.**

Education Specialist Kristen Franchak shared her thoughts about the event with the *Beacon Blast*: "The new award ceremony location was amazing and beautiful. I feel everyone who attended was impressed by the location and the new format of the ceremony by doing the elementary in one room and the high school in another. All the parents and staff whom I have talked with loved the entire event, food, venue, and slide shows. Awesome responses!" *Beacon Blast* asked, "What makes you feel the best as a teacher about the awards ceremony?" She replied, "As a teacher I feel the best about being able to find new areas/things each year that my students have made progress in. I take pride in creating goals with the families and then helping the students to achieve them." Way to go, Miss Andrea, Mr. Anthony, Miss Kristen (all pictured below), and all of the kind, happy staff members who help make Beacon Day School a wonderful place for students!



## BEACON STUDENT ART GIFTED TO CONGRESSMEN!

The ballroom was packed with hundreds of attendees for the congressional keynote panel on Friday, May 24 at the AutismOne conference in Chicago. The speakers, all current or former members of the U.S. House of Representatives, received "Courage in Congress" awards that were framed Beacon student art. Those honored included Chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Congressman Darrell Issa. Pictured to the right, Congressman Bill Posey stands with his award. Thanks to Beacon art instructor Juli Inagi for marking this milestone for Beacon students and to the students who put their efforts forth for the artwork at this event and the conference art gallery.



When asked about her overall impression and favorite part of the AutismOne conference, Beacon Education Specialist Kristen Franchak said, "My overall impression of AutismOne was as extremely impressed! ....My favorite part personally was seeing how dedicated so many people and families are working with individuals with autism. So many people traveled from all over to come to the conference, and being able to talk with the family members and hear about their situation and offer some suggestions or strategies to them on how they could work with their children felt great!" In reply to a question about the arts festival, Kristen replied, "The artwork at AutismOne I felt added a whole level of class and sophistication to the event. I loved walking by the lobby, seeing not just people from the conference, but all who were staying at the hotel (wedding parties, airline staff) look at and appreciate the art on the walls knowing that it was done by individuals on the spectrum." And Barkin' Beacon Biscuits? "Taking the biscuits to Chicago felt great! Everyone loved the idea, and I was able to make some great contacts with others in the field so we can expand the business."

*A special thanks to freelance graphic artist David Hoffer for donating his time to make the new Barkin' Beacon Bacon Biscuits label. Everyone loves it -- thank you so much!*

**Barkin' Beacon Bacon Biscuits is traveling again to the Taste of West OC & Tabletop Business Expo on July 18 at the Knott's Berry Farm Hotel, 7675 Crescent Avenue.**



### App of the Month from Miss Kristen

The Best Sand Timer is a great visual timer that allows you to display to your students how much time they have left on a particular task. It shows the students in a concrete way when time will be up for a certain task. You can time anything up to 60 minutes. This is available on a number of different devices including iPhone, iPod, and iPad.



**Last day of school 6/28 (min. day); school reopens 7/8 (min. day). Have a safe and happy 4th of July holiday!**

