



## **Academy for Academic Excellence volunteer recognized with award**

**By RACHEL BYRD Staff Writer / Daily Press**

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APPLE VALLEY — There are a number of volunteers at the Academy of Academic Excellence who contribute just as much dedication and time as the paid staff, according to Principal Gordon Soholt.

**Patty Pinkstaff** is one of these exemplary volunteers, Soholt said.

“She is one of those people who just is everything at the school,” Soholt said. “You can call on her to do anything at any time, and she does it.”

Pinkstaff received the “Charter School Volunteer of the Year” award from the California Charter Schools Association in Sacramento Friday.

Pinkstaff has a junior and a senior at the academy, and she has been an active volunteer for seven years. She considers volunteering for the academy her full-time job.

“I see that there’s always a need to fill in somewhere,” Pinkstaff said.

One of Pinkstaff’s main contributions has been making all the costumes for the theatrical productions, Soholt said.

Last year she made 168 pieces of clothing for “Guys and Dolls,” and she is currently working on costumes for “Our Town.”

Pinkstaff also does fundraising and helps the Associated Student Body plan events, such as the upcoming prom in Huntington Beach.

The volunteer award is one of about 50 Hart Vision awards presented to California charter schools each year. One charter school volunteer receives this award annually based on nominations from their school.

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