

Freddie Thompson-Esters

It is my pleasure to acknowledge Freddie Thompson-Esters as the award recipient for the National Dance Society's Honor Award. Few individuals have the depth of passion for this field as Freddie does. She is a professional dance educator, an advocate, and person of strong faith. When Freddie is present, she fills a room with energy as she connects to all people.

Freddie has worked tirelessly for many good causes including CAHPERD, being instrumental in getting the "D" in the Californian state organization. She was a dynamic force within the National Dance Association and one of the nine founding members in 2014 of the National Dance Society.

Throughout the decades, Freddie's dedication and passion is evident in the roles she undertook to heighten dance's visibility and value serving as CAHPERD's vice-president of Dance as well as NDA's vice-president for Dance.

She has recently retired from fifty-three years of teaching, most recently from Hollywood High School Performing Arts Center.

Her colleagues say of her that " Freddie has been called to serve in important leadership roles during critical times because her skills and unwavering characteristics were and are needed to advance dance through turbulent days."

It is my honor to present the Honor Award to Freddie Thompson-Esters.