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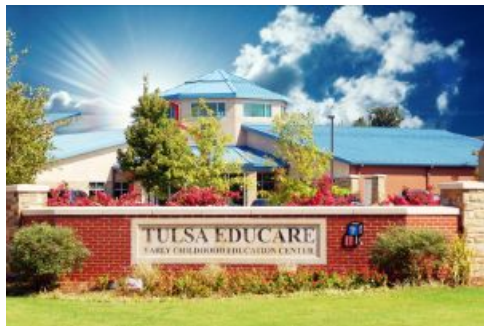
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# Tulsa Educare chosen as finalist for Oklahoma Nonprofit Excellence Awards

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COURTESY TULSA EDUCARE

Posted: Thursday, March 14, 2013 11:30 am | Updated: 10:31 am, Fri Mar 15, 2013.

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Tulsa Educare Inc. is one of two dozen Oklahoma organizations that are now finalists for a \$10,000 award and the title of the state's top nonprofit, thanks to the prestigious Oklahoma Nonprofit Excellence (ONE) Awards, annually presented by the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits. Out of approximately 19,000 nonprofits statewide, only 24 were named finalists, and only three of them are education nonprofits.

"We are honored to be one of the finalists for the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits ONE Awards," said Caren Calhoun, executive director of Tulsa Educare. "Our Tulsa Educare schools focus on at-risk children from birth to 5 years old and provide them with the education and support they need to enter school ready

and eager to learn. Our teachers and staff are dedicated to helping these children and their families to be successful, and it's so great to see that hard work being recognized and rewarded."

Tulsa Educare, Inc. (TEI) is a not-for-profit organization created to provide high-quality early childhood education and care to low-income families living in Tulsa. TEI's mission is to help break the cycle of poverty through a flagship, very early childhood education program and through transfer of best practices to other Tulsa programs. TEI is made possible by partnerships with public and private entities, including Early Head Start, the State Department of Education, Tulsa Public Schools, George Kaiser Family Foundation, Department of Human Services, Oklahoma Early Childhood Program, the University of Oklahoma and many other community organizations. TEI currently provides year-round, full-day education and care for more than 530 Tulsa at-risk children and their families at three locations in Tulsa.

On April 20, 2013, the finalists will join supporters at Tulsa's Southern Hills Country Club to celebrate and hear the winners announced. Finalists divided into eight mission categories receive \$5,000, with category winners receiving \$7,500. At the end of the evening an overall winner receives \$10,000 and the title of the top nonprofit in the state. In total, organizations receive almost \$150,000 to recognize the impact of their charitable work throughout the state.

Awards are presented in the following eight categories:

## Calendar

December 2013						
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The ONE Awards Selection Commission, a group of prestigious community leaders from across Oklahoma, determines the finalists. The commission, chaired by J. Jerry Dickman, includes Michael Cawley, Nance Diamond, Frederick Drummond, Ken Fergeson, R.H. Harbaugh, Kim Henry, David Hogan, Phil Lakin, Frank Merrick, Polly Nichols and Dr. George Young.

"The finalists are selected because they are the best of the best at what they do," Dickman said. "From the top level of management down to the part time staff, these are committed individuals pulling together to achieve missions as big as Oklahoma."

To purchase tickets or for sponsorship information for the 2013 ONE Awards, please call (800) 338-1798.

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