

# The Boston Globe

## KIPP Student and Teacher Honored

Boston-Area Middle School Student Leandro Diaz and Teacher Andrea DeAngelo Each Receive \$10,000 Surprise Awards

By Wendy Killeen  
August 6, 2009

When **Leandro Diaz** moved from the Dominican Republic to Lynn and enrolled in KIPP Academy Lynn in fifth grade, he didn't speak English, knew no math, and didn't know how to write the alphabet or numbers.

He has made great progress and last year was able to do the same challenging college-prep work as his eighth-grade classmates. In the fall, he'll attend Malden Catholic High School.

Diaz recently received a \$10,000 Doris Fisher Award, named for the cofounder of Gap Inc., for overcoming challenges to excel in academics, leadership, and character.

He was one of only six students selected from more than 1,000 eligible eighth-graders. The winners were selected by a committee that included Fisher, KIPP's cofounders, and other educators.

**Andrea DeAngelo** of KIPP Lynn was one of 10 teachers selected from nearly 1,000 educators from across the country to win the \$10,000 Excellence in Teaching Award. The award recognizes public school teachers for improving student achievement, inspiring other teachers, and contributing to their school community.

DeAngelo started teaching seventh-grade math at KIPP Lynn in 2005, after working with Teach for America in Arizona. She is chairwoman of the seventh-grade team and the math department, serves on the school leadership team, runs the seventh-grade trips, and coaches the boys' basketball team.

"Students and teachers are the heart of any successful school," said **Richard Barth**, CEO of the KIPP Foundation. "Leandro and Andrea are raising the standard of excellence for the entire KIPP network of schools.

KIPP is a Lynn public school for students in grades 5 through 8 that is based on the national Knowledge is Power Program.

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