

SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT

Public Information Office 08-31-2016

Press Release

1600 Hrs.

For Immediate Release PST Jonathan Baxter - 415 – 558-3404(o) 415 – 660-0545(c)

FIREHOUSE Magazine announces its 2015 honorees in their Nationwide Community Service Awards program

San Francisco Firefighter DeWayne Eckerdt to receive 3rd place in the Nation for his role in "San Francisco Firefighters in Safety Education" Program

San Francisco Firefighter DeWayne Eckerdt has been at the helm of the San Francisco Firefighters in Safety Education (SFFISE) program for 5 years. Eckerdt is responsible for more than a dozen fire department instructors and instructs the 30-minute program himself in every grade school Citywide. Co-sponsored by the San Francisco Fire Department (SFFD), and the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation, this program has shared valuable safety education with more than 30,000 San Francisco grade-school students from all schools, public and private.

The students learn things like 'Stay Low & Go,' not to play with matches or lighters, how to dial 9-1-1 and more. Eckerdt also has instructor kits set up at stations throughout the city to make the program flow easier. This is an additional duty for Eckerdt, who works his scheduled shifts at Engine Company 5. (Firehouse Magazine, August 2016)

DeWayne Eckerdt will be featured in the October 2016 issue of Firehouse Magazine and will be recognized at the opening ceremonies of the 2016 FIREHOUSE EXPO Training Conference in Nashville, Tennessee October 18-22, 2016.

"We are honored to acknowledge Firefighter Eckerdts efforts in enhancing our community's safety through education. Firefighter Eckerdts has enabled countless children to learn valuable tools that will save lives. His professionalism is in line with the finest traditions of the San Francisco Fire Department," said Chief Joanne Hayes-White.

Visit <u>http://www.firehouse.com/article/12228338/community-service-awards-2015</u> for more information on this year's awards recipients and to see the honorable mentions.