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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EDmarket Announces 2024 NexGen Rising Stars



Gaithersburg, MD (August 15, 2024) — The Education Market Association (EDmarket) is excited to recognize the achievements of the second cohort of young professionals in the education industry through the 2024 NexGen Rising Stars Award.

This award highlights outstanding individuals who are 40 years old or younger and are nominated by EDmarket members. This initiative celebrates the contributions of these emerging leaders to education. The NexGen Rising Stars community serves as a year-round platform for collaboration, mentorship, and idea exchange.

After a comprehensive review of all the qualified nominees, we are proud to announce the 2024 NexGen Rising Stars whose outstanding achievements, dedication, and potential have truly set them apart.

- ★ [Janet Alford](#), Paragon Furniture, Inc.
- ★ [Betsy Andrusiak](#), Meteor Education
- ★ [Ashley Campos](#), ECLPS, Chula Vista Elementary School District
- ★ [Michelle Carpenter O’Guin](#), Modern Context
- ★ [Kaleb Davis](#), CEF, Inc.
- ★ [Lacey Fischer](#), Kimball International
- ★ [Jana Goehring](#), Business Furniture
- ★ [Emily Islip](#), ECLPS, Smith System
- ★ [Emily Islip](#), Smith System
- ★ [Trent Kirchenheiter](#), Akers Business Solutions
- ★ [Jennifer McArt](#), Clear Touch
- ★ [Dustin McDermott](#), ECLPS, Marco
- ★ [Michael Ralph](#), Multistudio
- ★ [Bethany Smith](#), Meteor Education
- ★ [Jake Stacy](#), MiEN Company
- ★ [Victoria Veneziano](#), Meteor Education
- ★ [Candice Weyna](#), Lakeshore Learning

“We are thrilled to honor these exceptional young professionals who have demonstrated remarkable dedication, innovation, and leadership in the education industry,” says Jim McGarry. “Their contributions

are not only shaping the future of our industry but also setting a high standard for excellence and integrity. Their achievements inspire us all, and we look forward to seeing their continued impact and success in the years to come.”

NexGen Rising stars will be recognized at the Plenary Session at EDspaces, November 12 in Houston, TX, and are invited to the EDmarket Leadership Roundup, in addition to being featured in *Essentials* magazine and on social media.

Thank you to our distinguished [panel of judges](#) for helping make this program possible.

To learn more about the impressive list of NexGen Rising Stars, visit: <https://www.edmarket.org/nexgen/>

Education Market Association (EDmarket)

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