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# News Release

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## **Grape Commission Awards Mini-grants to California Teachers**

FRESNO, California – Ten teachers from California’s fresh grape regions have been awarded mini-grants of \$500 each for innovative teaching ideas. The projects being funded include subjects in alternate energy, California history and agriculture, taught to students ranging from elementary to high school levels.

“Each year the state’s fresh grape farmers have the opportunity to contribute to their communities through these grants,” said Kathleen Nave, the president of the California Table Grape Commission. This year’s winners teach at school districts throughout California, including Reedley, Porterville, Fremont, Bakersfield, Arvin, Kingsburg and Coalinga.

“California’s teachers are dedicated to finding creative ways to teach students,” said Nave. “These grants provide teachers with the resources they need to implement their ideas.” The 10 funded school projects will take place within the next few months, and include a combined total of more than 400 participating students.

Since 1993, the commission’s “Innovation in Teaching” program has provided over \$75,000 in mini-grants, reaching more than 5,000 students in the Coachella and San Joaquin Valley farm communities.

The California Table Grape Commission was created by the California legislature in 1967 to increase worldwide demand for fresh California grapes through a variety of research and promotional programs. More information can be found at [grapesfromcalifornia.com](http://grapesfromcalifornia.com).

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