

AmeriCorps Alumni of the Year

Tianna R. Evans

Teach For America Milwaukee

Governor's
Service Awards

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Seniors

Over the last fourteen years, Tianna Evans has worked to increase and deepen her impact across the Milwaukee community by supporting students, parents, and educational staff. Her AmeriCorps service with Teach For America Milwaukee helped serve as a springboard for the several roles she has taken since then, creating opportunities for children to learn, grow, influence, and lead.

Tianna served as an AmeriCorps member and teacher for two years from 2009 to 2011, teaching special education and J.W. Riley Elementary School (now Riley Dual Language Montessori) and Forest Home Avenue School. Additionally, in the two summers following her service, Tianna supported incoming AmeriCorps members at the TFA Chicago Institute, first as a Corps Member Advisor and then as a Curriculum Specialist.

Tianna's commitment to educational leadership has remained steadfast throughout her career. In the next few years after her service, Tianna continued teaching students at Forest Home Avenue School until 2013. She then began taking on new educational leadership roles, serving for three years as the Instructional Coach of Culture / Dean of Students at Carver Academy and then three more years as their assistant principal. Most recently, she served as the interim principal at Marvin E. Pratt Elementary during the previous school year and has continued as their school principal this year.



In addition to her work with Milwaukee elementary and middle school students, Tianna has also worked with the Center for Urban Teaching as a Leader Coach and Capstone Mentor to assist current and future educators completing their graduate degrees at Wisconsin Lutheran College. Additionally, she is also currently serving on the Center for Urban Teaching Principal Peer Advisory Cohort, ensuring they have the tools and knowledge to make a lasting impact.

While serving as an AmeriCorps member with TFA Milwaukee and in the teaching and educational leadership positions she has held since then, Tianna has been able to connect and build authentic relationships with students, staff, and families while maintaining high expectations and accountability towards meaningful outcomes for kids. As a principal, she has worked to build a staff culture that centers students and their learning while equally valuing teachers' individual contributions to the school. She also cares deeply about parent involvement in creating a learning environment where students can thrive, knowing its importance as a mother of four.

When describing the impact Tianna has had locally in Milwaukee, Kelly Kotarek, the Managing Director, Strategy, Development & Operations for Teach For America explains that "Tianna has made significant contributions to our city and has established herself as a prominent leader in the education landscape. She dedicates herself to the school community each day while also being the best mom possible."

