

NATIONAL TEACHER RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

This document lists several recognition programs that honor exemplary teachers throughout the United States. The programs are administered by corporate entities or professional educator organizations not affiliated with the Florida Department of Education. The information contained herein is provided solely as a service to Florida teachers.

All-USA Teacher Team

Sponsored by USA Today, the All-USA Teacher Team program honors active, full-time, certified teachers and instructional teams teaching grades K-12. Each member of the All USA Teacher First team shares a monetary award in the amount of \$2,500.00 with the recipient's school. Nomination forms are available during the fall. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of nomination materials is mid-April.*

For more information, please contact USA Today at 703-854-5890 or by e-mail at allstars@usatoday.com. To obtain a nomination form, please send a self-addressed, stamped business-size envelope to Carol Skalski at USA TODAY, 7950 Jones Branch Drive, McLean, Virginia 22108-9995. Please specify the type of form requested (i.e. Teacher Nomination Form). Website: http://www.usatoday.com/news/education/2002-11-04-allstars_x.htm

Annual Leavey Awards for Excellence in Private Enterprise Education

These awards honor outstanding full-time educators teaching in grades K-12. Applicants must conceive and implement an innovative course, program or project that develops among his/her students a deeper understanding and appreciation of the American private enterprise system. The selection committee may recommend up to 20 monetary awards totaling \$7,500.00 each. In addition, it may recommend a special monetary award in the amount of \$15,000.00 for an unusually meritorious entry. In the event a selected nomination involves more than one instructor, the award will be shared equally among the recipients. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of nomination materials is early October.*

For more information, please contact Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge at 1-800-896-5488 ext. 234 or 610-933-8825 ext. 234 or by e-mail at awards@ffvf.org. Website: www.freedomsfoundation.com

DisneyHand Teacher Awards

The DisneyHand Teacher Award recognizes full-time teachers in grades pre-Kindergarten through 12 that construct creative learning environments in which students and teachers alike explore, imagine and engage in a variety of thought-provoking experiences. Applications are submitted in one of the following 15 teaching categories. Applicants are evaluated against other nominees in the same category:

- Elementary: Early Childhood, Primary and Intermediate
- Middle School/Junior High: Science, Humanities, Math and interdisciplinary teams
- High School: Science, Humanities, Math and interdisciplinary teams
- Pre-Kindergarten through 12th Grade: Arts, Applied Fields/Other, Special Needs and Wellness & Sports

The Walt Disney Company will award cash prizes to 40 applicants in the amount of \$10,000.00 per honoree. The honorees' schools also receive \$5,000.00 in monetary awards. The Outstanding Teacher of the Year receives \$25,000.00. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of applications is early January.*

Additional information and applications may be obtained from the website at:
<http://disney.go.com/disneylearning/ata/index.html>

Dole Creative 5 A Day Teacher Award

The annual Dole Creative 5 A Day Teacher of the Year award is presented by Dole Food Company to three outstanding elementary educators whose unique curricular activities motivate students and their families to eat 5 servings of fruits and vegetables every day and become physically active. The first place recipient will receive a trip for four to either Disneyland in Anaheim, California or the Walt Disney Resort in Orlando and a 5 a day party for students, family, school administrators and local education officials. Two runners up will be recognized during awards ceremonies at their schools and they will also receive certificates and gifts for their students. *Applications the deadline for receipt of nominations is mid-March.*

The official entry form is available on the website at
http://www.dole5aday.com/Teachers/ClassroomResources/Instructional/TeacherAwards/CTOTY_entry_form2005.pdf Completed entry forms should be mailed to Dole Food Company at the following address:

Dole 5 A Day Program
"Creative 5 A Day Teacher of the Year" Contest
One Dole Drive
Westlake Village, California 91362

Website:
http://www.dole5aday.com/Teachers/ClassroomResources/Instructional/T_TeacherAwards.jsp

ING Unsung Heroes Awards

The Unsung Heroes Awards program is sponsored by ING to recognize K-12 educators pioneering new methods and techniques that improve student learning. Candidates must submit applications describing projects they have initiated or envisioned for the future. The applications are evaluated to discern innovative teaching methods, creative educational projects and the positive impact on students. 100 finalists will each receive monetary awards in the amount of \$2,000.00 made payable to the finalists and their schools. First, second and third place winners identified from among the 100 finalists will receive additional monetary awards as follows:

- 1st place - \$25,000.00
- 2nd place - \$10,000.00
- 3rd place - \$5,000.00

Please note, the deadline for receipt of applications is late April.

For more information or to obtain an application, please contact Scholarship America at 800-537-4180 or by e-mail at ing@scholarshipamerica.org.

Website: http://www.ing.com/us/about/connect/education/unsung_heroes.html

Freida J. Riley Teacher Award

The Freida J. Riley Teacher Award annually recognizes a teacher who overcomes adversity or makes an enormous sacrifice in order to positively impact students. It is named in honor of Freida J. Riley, the teacher who inspired the [Rocket Boys](#) book and is depicted in the film *October Sky*. Miss Riley died of Hodgkin's disease at the age of 31.

Candidates are limited to teachers in grades K-12 that work with physical handicaps, teach in an especially challenging educational environment or have performed a heroic act through personal or physical sacrifice in the line of duty. The recipient will receive a monetary award in the amount of \$10,000.00, funding for travel and lodging expenses incurred to attend the award ceremony and a sculpture. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of application materials is early March.*

For more information or to obtain an application, please contact the Partnership for America's Future, Inc. at 330-376-8300.

Website: <http://www.pafinc.com/riley/about.htm>

NASDAQ Teaching Awards

The NASDAQ National Teaching Awards honor outstanding teachers in grades 6-12 in any subject area who foster economic literacy. Regional and national awards are presented to teachers for their most creative, original and effective efforts to apply economic content and reasoning skills to:

- Voluntary National Content Standards in Economics
- financial markets
- the capital formation process
- the investment process (either economic or financial)
- personal finance
- entrepreneurship
- the market economy

One Grand National Winner will receive a monetary award in the amount of \$25,000.00 (which includes his/her \$10,000.00 Regional Award), five Regional Winners will each receive monetary awards totaling \$10,000.00 and twenty Regional Semi-Finalists will receive each \$1,000.00 monetary awards. Each of the five Regional Winners will also receive an all-expenses paid trip to New York City to accept the awards. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of entries is late July.*

For more information or to obtain an application, please call 1-800-338-1192 extension 6702. Website: <http://www.ncee.net/ea/program.php?pid=6>

National Association of Biology Teachers

The National Association of Biology Teachers offers several award programs for teachers. Individuals interested in nominating a candidate must forward a nomination form accompanied by a letter outlining the reason(s) the candidate should be selected. The nomination form may be obtained through the NABT website at <http://www.nabt.org/sup/education/awards.asp>. From the nominations, NABT will send application materials to the nominee. Nominees must complete the forms and return same to NABT to be considered for the designated award. Listed below are several award programs coordinated by NABT.

Outstanding Biology Teacher Award

The Outstanding Biology Teacher Award program recognizes an outstanding biology educator in grades 7-12 in each of the 50 states; Washington, DC; Canada; Puerto Rico; and overseas territories. Candidates for this award must have not less than three years teaching experience. A significant portion of the nominee's career must have been devoted to the teaching of biology/life science. The selection committee evaluates each nominee's teaching ability and experience, cooperativeness in the school and community, inventiveness, initiative, and student-teacher relationships. Award recipients are honored at a special event during the NABT National Convention and they receive biology lab equipment, certificates and a complimentary one-year membership from NABT. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of nominations is early February.*

Website: <http://www.nabt.org/sup/education/awards.asp>

Outstanding New Biology Teacher Achievement Award

This award honors outstanding biology/life science educators in grades 7-12 with less than 3 years teaching experience at the time of nomination. Candidates must have developed an original and outstanding program or technique. The award winner receives a monetary award in the amount of \$500.00, a recognition plaque during the NABT National Convention and a complimentary one-year NABT membership. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of nominations is mid-March.*

Website: <http://www.nabt.org/sup/education/awards.asp>

NABT Biotechnology Teaching Award

The NABT Biotechnology Teaching Award is presented to a secondary school teacher or undergraduate college faculty member that has implemented an innovative classroom approach that incorporates the principles and processes of biotechnology. Entries will be judged on the following criteria: innovativeness, scientific accuracy, good laboratory practice and research techniques, benefits to students and ease of replication. Topics eligible for consideration include DNA biotechnology, protein biotechnology and immunology, Advanced Placement biology, medical biotechnology and plant biotechnology. The award recipient receives a monetary award in the amount of \$500.00, a recognition plaque presented during the NABT National Convention and a one-year complimentary NABT membership. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of nominations is mid-March.*

Website: <http://www.nabt.org/sup/education/awards.asp>

Award for Excellence in Encouraging Equity

Sponsored by Science Kit and Boreal Laboratories and the National Association of Biology Teachers' Section on the Role and Status of Women in Biology Education, this award recognizes efforts by biology educators to encourage, promote and achieve equity in the educational community. The award, including a plaque and an honorarium, is presented to the recipient during the NABT National Convention. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of nominations is mid-March.*

Website: <http://www.nabt.org/sup/education/awards.asp>

Evolution Education Award

Sponsored by the Foundation for the Future of Bellevue, Washington, this award recognizes innovative classroom teaching and community education efforts to promote the accurate understanding of biological evolution. The award recipient receives a monetary award in the amount of \$1,000.00 and additional funds totaling \$1,000.00 to be applied to travel related expenses to attend the NABT convention. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of nominations is early May.*

Website: <http://www.nabt.org/sup/education/awards.asp>

National High School Journalism Teacher of the Year Award

Sponsored by the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, the National High School Journalism Teacher of the Year Award honors exemplary journalism teachers with three or more years of experience. The winning teacher is invited to present keynote addresses to the Journalism Education Association/National Scholastic Press Association, the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, American Society of Newspaper Editors, the Association of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication, the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication and its scholastic journalism division. The teacher also receives a laptop computer, funding for travel and lodging expenses, a per diem for substitute teacher fees and a stipend to write a quarterly column for the Fund's newsletter. A senior student at the recipient's school also receives a college scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.00 to major in news-editorial journalism based on his or her performance in a writing contest held at their school.

In addition to a winning teacher, four Distinguished Advisers and several Special Recognition Advisers will be chosen. One student for each Distinguished Adviser will also receive a college scholarship in the amount of \$500.00.

Please note, the deadline for receipt of application forms is early July. For more information or to obtain an application contact the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund at (609) 452-2820.

Website: http://djnewspaperfund.dowjones.com/fund/hst_teacher_toy.asp

National Science Teachers Association

The National Science Teachers Association has numerous grants and award programs available for teachers. To obtain additional information regarding the teacher recognition programs, visit the NSTA website at <http://www.nsta.org/awardscomp>. Listed below are several award programs coordinated by NSTA.

Ciba Specialty Chemicals Exemplary Middle Level and High School Science Teaching Awards

Sponsored by Ciba Specialty Chemicals Education Foundation, this program recognizes one middle level and one high school teacher who have demonstrated exemplary science teaching in one or more of the following areas: creativity using science teaching materials; design and use of innovative teaching plans and ideas; and development and implementation of department, school or school-community programs that improve science instruction and/or stimulate interest in science and the learning of science. The award winner receives a monetary award in the amount of \$1,000.00, a one-year membership in NSTA and funding up to \$500.00 to attend NSTA's National Convention. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of applications is mid-October.*
Website: <http://www.nsta.org/awardscomp>

DCAT "Making a Difference" Award

Sponsored by the Drug, Chemical and Associated Technologies Association, this award recognizes excellence in a science program developed and implemented by middle level science teachers in grades 6–8. Entries must demonstrate innovative and effective teaching strategies combined with a science program that has influenced students to explore and investigate science and its application to global problems. In addition to a monetary award in the amount of \$2,500.00 to be used to enhance or expand the winning science program, the winning school's lead science teacher and principal will be awarded airfare and two night's hotel accommodation to attend NSTA's National Convention. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of applications is mid-October.*
Website: <http://www.nsta.org/awardscomp>

Delta Education/CPO Awards for Excellence in Inquiry-based Science Teaching

Sponsored by Delta Education LLC, this program recognizes three full-time PreK-12 science teachers who successfully use inquiry-based science to enhance teaching and learning in their classroom. Each award winner will receive a monetary award in the amount of \$1,500.00 and an expense paid trip not exceeding \$1,500.00 to attend NSTA's National Convention. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of applications is mid-October.*
Website: <http://www.nsta.org/awardscomp>

Estes Rocketry/U.S. Space Foundation (USSF)/NSTA Space Educator Award

Sponsored by Estes and the Space Foundation, this award is presented to full-time teachers in grades 4-12, who have taught science in a classroom setting not less than 3 years. In addition to a monetary award totaling \$1,000.00, the recipient will receive funding up to \$500.00 to attend the NSTA Convention. The recipient is also awarded a full tuition fellowship and airfare to attend the Space Discovery Graduate Course in Colorado Springs, Colorado. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of applications is mid-October.*
Website: <http://www.nsta.org/awardscomp>

Gustav Ohaus Awards for Innovations in Science Teaching

Sponsored by the Ohaus Corporation, this award honors a science teacher in grades K-12 who has developed innovative programs in one of the following areas: new curriculum design, instructional methods or techniques, unique organization, administrative patterns, new approach to laboratory activities or other enhanced learning activity for students. In addition to a monetary award totaling \$1,500.00, the recipient will receive funding up to \$1,500.00 to attend the NSTA Convention. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of applications is mid-October.*

Website: <http://www.nsta.org/awardscomp>

Science Screen Report Award

Sponsored by Science Screen Report, Inc., this award is presented to one science teacher in grades K-12 who has creatively used commercially available films or videotapes to develop a science unit or theme. The award winner receives a monetary award in the amount of \$1,000.00 and funding up to \$500.00 to attend NSTA's National Convention. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of entries is mid-October.*

Website: <http://www.nsta.org/awardscomp>

Shell Science Teaching Award

Sponsored by Shell Oil Company, this program recognizes one outstanding classroom science teacher in grades K-12 who has had a positive impact on his or her students, school and community through exemplary science teaching. The award recipient receives a monetary award totaling \$10,000.00 and an all-expenses-paid trip to NSTA's National Convention. Two finalists will also receive all-expenses-paid trips to the convention. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of applications is mid-November.*

Website: <http://www.nsta.org/awardscomp>

Toyota Tapestry Grants Program

Sponsored by: Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., the program offers 50 grants totaling up to \$10,000.00 each and a minimum of 20 mini-grants totaling \$2,500.00 each for science teachers in grades K-12. Proposals must describe a project including its potential impact on students, and a budget not exceeding \$10,000.00 (or \$2,500.00 for mini-grant applications). Grants are awarded in the following categories:

- The Environmental Science Education category funds projects that emphasize the efficient use of natural resources and protection of the environment. Students participating in these projects should gain an increased awareness of the terrestrial, aquatic and/or atmospheric environment and an understanding of their own interdependence with the natural world.
- The Physical Science Applications category includes projects that relate the laws, principles and concepts of science (physics and chemistry) to phenomena and events relevant to students' lives. Physical Science Application projects should involve the students' own experiences and interests. Unique ways of applying science to technology and making physical science more accessible to students are encouraged.
- The Literacy and Science Education category will focus on the development of literacy skills in the context of science teaching and learning. Projects will be funded that highlight techniques and practices that embed literary strategies in inquiry-based science instruction and support improved science achievement.

Project directors for recipients of large grant awards will be flown to Dallas to attend the awards banquet held during the NSTA convention. Project directors for recipients of the mini-grant awards will receive a one-year membership to NSTA. *Please note the deadline for receipt of Toyota Tapestry grant proposals is mid-January.*

Website: <http://www.nsta.org/awardscomp>

Vernier Technology Awards

Sponsored by Vernier Software and Technology, this award rewards the innovative use of data collection technology using a computer, graphing calculator or other handheld in the science classroom. Seven awards will be presented to science teachers as follows: one award at the elementary level (grades K-5); two awards at the middle level (grades 6-8); three awards at the high school level (grades 9-12); and one award at the college level. Each recipient will receive a monetary award totaling \$1,000.00, funding up to \$1,000.00 to attend the NSTA Convention and \$1,000.00 in Vernier products. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of applications is mid-October.*

Website: <http://www.nsta.org/awardscomp>

The National Teachers Hall of Fame

Each year, the National Teachers Hall of Fame honors five teachers who have demonstrated commitment and dedication to teaching. Candidates must be certified classroom teachers (active or retired) with at least 20 years experience teaching in grades pre K-12. Anyone may nominate a teacher. Inductees receive a scholarship totaling \$1,000.00 to be presented to a student in the inductee's school district who intends to pursue a degree in education. Inductees also receive materials for their school districts, a permanent display in the National Teachers Hall of Fame in Emporia, Kansas and other gifts. *Please note, the deadline for receipt of nomination forms is early January.*

For more information or to obtain an application, please call 1-800-96TEACH.

Website: www.nthf.org/teacher.htm

Presidential Award for Reading and Technology

Sponsored by Plato Learning, this award honors educators in grades K–12 who are making an outstanding and innovative contribution to the use of technology in reading education. Award recipients are honored during the International Reading Association (IRA) Annual Convention. One grand prize winner will receive \$1,000.00 and expenses not exceeding \$2,000.00 to attend the IRA Annual Convention. Nine additional winners including seven U.S. regional winners (Southeast, Plains, Rocky Mountain, Southwest, West, East, and Great Lakes), one Canadian winner and one international winner will each receive a \$500.00 monetary award. Please note, the deadline for receipt of nomination materials is mid-November.

For more information regarding the program or to obtain an application, please contact the International Reading Association at 302-731-600 extension 221, or by e-mail at mcash@reading.org.

Website: <http://www.reading.org/awards/awardtech.html>