

# Excellence

IS ITS OWN

# REWARD

(BUT THE CASH IS A NICE PERK.)

Each state affiliate may submit **one** nomination by May 3, 2010.  
Interested members of the IEA-NEA must complete all required criteria.  
Criteria requirements can be found online at [www.ieane.org](http://www.ieane.org) or members can request this information by calling the office of Secretary-Treasurer Cinda Klickna at 1-800/252-8076.

**Applicant packages must be date stamped no later than January 7, 2010, and mailed to**

Cinda Klickna  
Illinois Education Association-NEA  
100 East Edwards Street  
Springfield, IL 62704-1999

## The NEA Foundation Awards for Teaching Excellence Call For Nominations

Here's your chance to nominate an excellent educator for *The NEA Foundation Awards for Teaching Excellence*. We're looking for candidates who are creative, student-focused, diversity sensitive and supportive, dedicated to life-long learning, and advocates for public education.

All awardees receive expenses-paid travel to The NEA Foundation's Annual *Salute to Excellence in Education* Gala in Washington, DC. Five awardees are selected for *The Horace Mann Awards for Teaching Excellence* and receive expenses-paid travel for a guest in addition to themselves. *The NEA Member Benefits Award for Teaching Excellence* recipient, selected from the five, receives \$25,000 in cash and a commemorative gift. The finalists for the national award receive \$10,000 in cash.



**State, Federal, or Direct Affiliate Information**

President Name: Ken Swanson  
 Affiliate Name: Illinois Education Association-NEA  
 Address: 100 E. Edwards Street  
 City: Springfield State: IL Zip: 62704  
 Telephone: 217-544-0706 Fax: 217-544-7383 Email: ken.swanson@ieanea.org

**Applicant Information**

Name with Salutation:  
 (example: Mr., Ms., Mrs., Dr., etc.)  
 Home Address:  
 City: State: Zip:  
 Telephone: Fax: Email:  
 School/Institution: Principal/Dean:  
 Work Address:  
 City: State: Zip:  
 Telephone: Fax: Email:  
 Job Title: NEA Membership: Yes/No

For teachers, what grades have you taught? Please select all that apply:

- |                       |                        |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Pre-Kindergarten      | 6 <sup>th</sup> grade  | 12 <sup>th</sup> grade |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> grade | 7 <sup>th</sup> grade  | College/University     |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade | 8 <sup>th</sup> grade  | Other                  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade | 9 <sup>th</sup> grade  | N/A                    |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> grade | 10 <sup>th</sup> grade |                        |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> grade | 11 <sup>th</sup> grade |                        |

For teachers, what subjects have you taught? Please select all that apply:

- |                  |                    |                   |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Arts             | Business           | Special Education |
| Language Arts    | Counseling         | Technology        |
| Foreign Language | Mathematics        | Other             |
| Religion         | Science            | N/A               |
| Social Studies   | Physical Education |                   |

**District/Institution Information**

Superintendent or Institution President Name:  
 District or Institute Name:  
 Complete the following, if different from work address.  
 Address:

City: State: Zip:  
 Telephone: Fax: Email:

**Local Affiliate Information**

President Name: Local Name:  
 Address:  
 City: State: Zip:  
 Telephone: Fax: Email:

## **CRITERIA REQUIREMENTS OF APPLICATION**

Application packages must include all of the items listed below, in the specified order. Formatting instructions are noted for each part. **Applications that do not conform to these specifications will be disqualified.**

### **A) DATA SHEET**

The data sheet requests contact information for the state, federal, or direct affiliate; the applicant; and the applicant's local affiliate.

**One page maximum. The form must be typed.**

### **B) RÉSUMÉ**

The résumé provides a brief, factual overview of the applicant's career, including positions held, degrees attained, honors received, etc. The résumé may also describe personal achievements or activities that are not noted elsewhere.

**One page maximum, double-spaced, 12-point or larger type with 1" or greater margins on all sides. May use narrative, bulleted lists, or both.**

### **C) APPLICANT'S STATEMENT**

The applicant must write the applicant's statement as a first-person narrative. The statement should include specific examples to illustrate all five of the award criteria. The questions below do not need to be copied verbatim in the text. However, applicants are strongly encouraged to include headings or keywords related to the criteria to aid the panelists in their reading.

**Five pages maximum, double-spaced, 12-point or larger type with 1" or greater margins on all sides.**

- 1) What are the most successful innovations that you have introduced in your classroom or school? What strategies or methods do you use to ensure that all students achieve at a high level? How do you act as an instructional leader?
- 2) How has your involvement in the National Education Association or NEA affiliate(s) contributed to your success as an educator? How would you persuade a new colleague to join or become more active in the association? In what other ways do you serve as an advocate for the profession and for public education?
- 3) What community resources do you bring to the classroom to enhance your lessons and student achievement? What service learning projects have you conducted with your students to benefit the community?

## **CRITERIA REQUIREMENTS OF APPLICATION**

- 4) What experiences or activities have been most beneficial to your professional knowledge, skills, and practice? How have you contributed to the professional development of your colleagues? How has your professional growth made a difference for your school or university, your students, and your community? Include examples.
- 5) How do you address issues of diversity in your curriculum and instruction and other interactions with students? What is the result of such efforts? How does your approach to diversity affect your work?
- 6) If you have not already done so, tell a story how your approach to teaching made a difference for a student or a group of students.
- 7) What advice would you give to someone entering the profession on how to attain teaching excellence?

### **D) LETTERS OF ENDORSEMENT**

Letters of endorsement can be written by your local affiliate president, colleagues, current or former students, parents, or community members. Letters should be signed, if possible, and the salutation should address the state affiliate selection committee or the national panel for *The NEA Foundation Awards for Teaching Excellence*.

**Up to three letters, two pages maximum each, 12-point or larger type, 1" or greater margins on all sides, double-space preferred. Must be submitted with all other materials.**

## CRITERIA REQUIREMENTS OF APPLICATION

- Submission**
- 1) Do **not** staple or permanently bind the materials. Paper clips are acceptable.
  - 2) Do **not** use covers or other decorative packaging.
  - 3) Include **only** the materials requested in these guidelines.
  - 4) Mail one complete application package **date stamped no later than January 7 for receipt at the Illinois Education Association-NEA by Friday, January 8, 2010.**

Send your application package to:

**Illinois Education Association-NEA  
Cinda Klickna, Secretary-Treasurer  
100 East Edwards Street  
Springfield, IL 62704-1999**

**Questions?** Call or e-mail Jill Scheller (1-800-252-8076, ext. 268 or [jill.scheller@ieanea.org](mailto:jill.scheller@ieanea.org)).

### CHECKLIST

A) DATA SHEET	<b>1 page</b>
B) RÉSUMÉ / BIOGRAPHY	<b>1 page maximum</b>
C) APPLICANT'S STATEMENT	<b>5 pages maximum</b>
D) LETTERS OF ENDORSEMENT	<b>6 pages maximum;</b> Up to 3 letters, 2 pages maximum each
E) DIGITAL JPEG PHOTO	<b>email to <a href="mailto:jill.scheller@ieanea.org">jill.scheller@ieanea.org</a></b>
TOTAL	<b>13 pages maximum; plus digital photo submitted by email</b>