DEADLINE
FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2015

2016 OKLAHOMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

APPLICATION PACKET *and* PROGRAM GUIDE

State Superintendent **Janet Barresi** and 2015 Teacher of the Year **Jason Proctor**

OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

www.ok.gov/sde • 2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599

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OKLAHOMA RECOGNIZES GREAT TEACHERS

Great Oklahoma teachers challenge, motivate, and inspire their students to do their best; they make learning exciting, engaging, and continuous; they are respected by their peers as well as local school officials, parents, and students; they are caring and creative, seeking to enrich the lives of their students and build a better future for us all. Honor teachers at the local level by participating in the Oklahoma Teacher of the Year Program. This packet shows you how!

MORE INFORMATION

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Oklahoma Teacher of the Year Program Coordinator

OKLAHOMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR toy

OKLAHOMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR PROGRAM

The Oklahoma Teacher of the Year (TOY) Program is conducted through the office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and is made possible through a partnership with the State Fair of Oklahoma. The overwhelming success of the program is credited to the numerous businesses, associations, organizations, and universities that typically present gifts to the Rising Star recipients, 12 TOY finalists, and the State Teacher of the Year. Examples of past gifts include tuition waivers, tickets to athletic events, classroom technologies, gift cards, cash awards, organization memberships, and the use of a motor vehicle! The Oklahoma Teacher of the Year is encouraged to participate in the National Teacher of the Year Program sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers.

GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

All Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12 classroom teachers in state-accredited schools are eligible for nomination. It is important that every teacher be given the opportunity to participate in this recognition process. **No minimum years of teaching experience is required to be qualified for Oklahoma Teacher of the Year**.

Nominees should be exceptionally skillful and dedicated classroom teachers who are planning to continue in an active teaching status. According to the director of the National Teacher of the Year Program, **a classroom teacher is one who teaches a group of students every day within the confines of the classroom and does not have administrative duties**. Nominees should communicate effectively and demonstrate creative and imaginative teaching on a day-to-day basis. The nominee should have the ability to inspire the value of learning in students of all backgrounds and abilities and assure academic success. Nominations should be made without regard to age, sex, race, or religion.

SELECTION PROCESS

At the local district level, the Teacher of the Year program is coordinated through the district superintendent. It is the responsibility of the district superintendent to make sure that every teacher is given the opportunity to participate in the recognition process. It is important to emphasize that the search is not for "the best teacher," but for one who exemplifies the finest in the profession.

LOCAL DISTRICT SELECTION PROCESS

The local school district determines the local selection process and announces the local Teacher of the Year.

REGIONAL SELECTION COMMITTEES

There are six regional committees that meet in June to review all portfolios received and to select twelve finalists, two from each region. A list of counties by region is enclosed. The twelve finalists are announced in July.

STATE SELECTION COMMITTEE

The state selection committee will follow procedures identified below for each of the twelve finalists in order to select the Oklahoma Teacher of the Year:

- Conduct an interview;
- View a DVD of classroom teaching. Each of the twelve regional finalists will be responsible for submitting a ten-minute DVD of classroom teaching in early September 2015. If the local district does not have taping capabilities, assistance will be provided by the Oklahoma State Department of Education (each finalist may view previous Oklahoma Teacher of the Year videos upon request); and
- Recommend the Oklahoma Teacher of the Year to the State Superintendent.

SELECTION ANNOUNCED

In September, the State Superintendent announces the Oklahoma Teacher of the Year who will serve as the Oklahoma Ambassador of Teaching.

The State Superintendent presents the Oklahoma Teacher of the Year to the State Board of Education.

In November, the State Superintendent nominates the Oklahoma Teacher of the Year to the Council of Chief State School Officers National Teacher of the Year Program.

OKLAHOMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR RECOGNITION

The Oklahoma Teacher of the Year serves as Oklahoma Ambassador of Teaching, representing Oklahoma in the national competition by sharing knowledge and resources with fellow educators around the state and encouraging education as a profession.

EDWARD C. JOULLIAN III SCHOLARSHIP

Edward C. Joullian III honorably served the state of Oklahoma as chairman of the State Fair Board of Directors for ten years. As a founder of the partnership between the Teacher of the Year program and the Oklahoma State Fair, he has shown his dedication to the education of the children of this great state. The Edward C. Joullian III Scholarship was established by the State Fair Board to encourage students to continue their education, recognize the State Teacher of the Year's school district, and celebrate the contributions of Mr. Joullian to the lives of Oklahoma's young people.

In 1998, the $5,000 scholarship was unveiled during the State Teacher of the Year recognition ceremony and is awarded annually to a graduating senior from the Teacher of the Year's school district. It is awarded based upon a student's overall scholastic, leadership, and civic potential.

2014 SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Kassidy Gary
Edmond North High School
Edmond Public Schools

PREVIOUS WINNERS

2013 – Dossanna Miller
Fairview High School
Fairview Public Schools

2012 – Liana Minguara
Hollis High School
Hollis Public Schools

2011 – Cheyenne Counts
Byng High School
Byng Public Schools

2010 – Taylor Elise Johnson
Edison Preparatory High School
Tulsa Public Schools

2009 – Alejandra Campos
Northwest Classen High School
Oklahoma City Public Schools

2008 – Ashley Dea Owens
Shawnee High School
Shawnee Public Schools

2007 – John Hammons
Muskogee High School
Muskogee Public Schools

2006 – Thelma Gomez Ramirez
Classen School of Advanced Studies
Oklahoma City

2005 – Tiffany Romasanta
Grove High School
Grove Public Schools

2004 – Angela Jefferson
Muskogee High School
Muskogee Public Schools

2003 – Amber Lynn Allison
Union High School
Union Public Schools

2002 – Adam Moss
Charles Page High School
Sand Springs Public Schools

2001 – Ike Akinwande
Southeast High School
Oklahoma City Public Schools

2000 – Magdalena Jurkiewicz
Bartlesville High School
Bartlesville Public Schools

1999 – Jamie Ann Mathew
Jenks High School
Jenks Public Schools

OKLAHOMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR SPONSORS

GOLD

American Fidelity Assurance Company
Kacey Booth and Wayne Ryan, Sales Managers

TEACHER OF THE YEAR:
- $1,000 Gift card
- $2,500 Credit toward graduate classes, certification or professional development
- $500 Classroom makeover
- Two tickets to a Thunder home game with in-game recognition
- Personalized Thunder jersey
- "The Teachers Desk" framed print by Greg Burns.

FINALISTS:
- $100 Gift card
- Two tickets to a Thunder home game with in-game recognition

Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma
Ronald J. Chambers, Grandmaster

TEACHER OF THE YEAR: $5,000

TEACHER OF THE YEAR SCHOOL DISTRICT: $5,000

FINALISTS: $1,000

DISTRICT TEACHERS OF THE YEAR: Personalized certificate

RISING STARS: $500

Oklahoma State Department of Education
Dr. Janet Barresi, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Oklahoma State Fair
Tim O'Toole, President
Teacher of the Year Ceremony Sponsor

FINALISTS: Acrylic apple and State Fair medallion

DISTRICT TEACHERS OF THE YEAR: Personalized certificate

Oklahoma State Fair in cooperation with John Vance Auto Group

TEACHER OF THE YEAR: Use of a vehicle for one year

SMART Technologies, Inc.
Terri Pelley, Education Consultant

TEACHER OF THE YEAR:
- SMART LightRaise interactive projector
- Notebook Classroom Advantage
- Introduction to Technology - a full day of group technology training offered during the 2015 U.S. STOY conference (January 2015)
- PD Part 2: Tech-Champions Workshop - a full day of small group workshops offered during the 2015 U.S. NTOY Week (April 2015)

FINALISTS:
- SMART Notebook Classroom License
- SMART Notebook Advantage Classroom

SILVER

East Central University – College of Education and Psychology
Dr. Phyllis Isaacs, Department of Education Chair

TEACHER OF THE YEAR: $1750 stipend toward lecture at ECU

Oklahoma Education Association
Alicia Priest, Vice President

TEACHER OF THE YEAR: One year of OEA professional services
FINALISTS: Crystal apple gift
RISING STARS: Commemorative gift

Professional Oklahoma Educators
Ginger Tinney, Executive Director and Brenda Asher, President

TEACHER OF THE YEAR:
- Bouquet of roses
- One year POE membership
- Commemorative plaque

FINALISTS: Commemorative plaque
DISTRICT TEACHERS OF THE YEAR: Ceramic coffee mug
RISING STARS: Folding chair with carrying bag

BRONZE

MTM Recognition
TEACHER OF THE YEAR: Multi-faceted crystal diamond

National State Teachers of the Year – Oklahoma Chapter
Robyn Hilger, Oklahoma Chapter President

TEACHER OF THE YEAR: Diamond lapel pin

UNIVERSITY TUITION WAIVERS

Northeastern State University
Dr. Debbie Landry, Dean of the College of Education

TEACHER OF THE YEAR:
- Thirty-six hour graduate tuition waiver
- Framed art from Dana Tiger
- "Roots of the Cherokee" Book

Oklahoma State University
Dr. Pamela Carroll, Dean of the College of Education

TEACHER OF THE YEAR: Thirty-six hour tuition waiver

University of Central Oklahoma
Dr. James Machell, Dean of the College of Education & Professional Studies

TEACHER OF THE YEAR: Thirty-six hour tuition waiver

University of Oklahoma
Dr. Lawrence Baines, Associate Dean of Graduate Programs & Research

TEACHER OF THE YEAR: Thirty hours of tuition for the graduate program or sixteen hours for undergraduate

University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma
Eric Seuerborn, Director of Alumni Development

TEACHER OF THE YEAR: One full undergraduate tuition waiver

OKLAHOMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR PROGRAM PORTFOLIO

To participate for **recognition at the ceremony only**, submit pages 8, 9, 10, and 11. A binder/notebook is not required.

To participate in the **state competition**, submit all items in portfolio form. The portfolio must be on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, placed in a binder, and organized in numerical order. All essay sections must be typed in 12-point standard font, Times New Roman, double-spaced with one-inch margins around each page. You may include dividers in the portfolio. Judges request that you follow instructions carefully and maintain a professional format. The portfolio must include the following:

1. Statement of Nomination from the local school district, signed by the superintendent—Form enclosed.

2. Basic Data Sheet—Form enclosed.

3. Educational History and Professional Development Activities— **List and date** your participation in professional organizations, service on committees, commissions, task forces, and presentations. (Limit response to two (2) double-spaced pages.)

4. Assurance Statement signed by the superintendent—Form enclosed.

5. Photograph—One (1) photo of yourself suitable for publication and press release (300 dpi). A 5– by 7–inch size is required by the National Teacher of the Year program. Please do not adhere picture to the page. Color photos are preferable to black and white. A professional-style photograph is recommended by the judges.

6. Professional Biography—What were the factors that influenced you to become a teacher? Describe what you consider to be your greatest contributions and accomplishments in education.
(Limit response to two (2) double-spaced pages.)

7. Community Involvement—Describe your commitment to your community through service-oriented activities including volunteer work, civic responsibilities, and other group activities. (Limit response to one (1) double-spaced page.)

8. Professional Statements written by the nominee.
A. State your Philosophy of Teaching—Describe your personal feelings and beliefs about teaching, including your own ideas of what makes an outstanding teacher. Describe the rewards you find in teaching. How are your beliefs about teaching demonstrated in your personal teaching style? (Limit response to two (2) double-spaced pages.)
B. Education Issues and Trends—What do you consider to be the major public education issues today? Address one in depth, outlining possible causes, effects, and resolutions. (Limit response to two (2) double-spaced pages.)
C. The Teaching Profession—What do you do to strengthen and improve the teaching profession? What is and/or what should be the basis for accountability in the teaching profession? (Limit response to two (2) double-spaced pages.)

9. Oklahoma Teacher of the Year—As the Oklahoma Teacher of the Year, you would serve as a spokesperson and representative for the entire teaching profession. What would be your message? What would you communicate to professional educators and to the general public? (Limit response to one (1) double-spaced page.)

10. Letters of Endorsement—Submit three letters, supporting your nomination from superintendents, principals, colleagues, parents, students, or civic leaders. (Each letter should be a **maximum of one (1) page.)**

The electronic version of this document is available at **www.ok.gov/sde/oklahoma-teacher-year**.
Please do not include additional materials other than those listed. DVDs are not to be submitted until selected as a Finalist.

DIRECTIONS FOR SUBMITTING PORTFOLIO

Portfolios must be received by or postmarked no later than **Friday, June 5, 2015**. Submit one original portfolio to:

Kasey Boes
Oklahoma Teacher of the Year Program
Oklahoma State Department of Education
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Suite 119
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599
405-521-4893 • kasey.boes@sde.ok.gov

NOTE: Portfolios may be picked up at the Teacher of the Year Ceremony in September. All portfolios that are not picked up will be discarded.

REGIONS (Revised in 2009)

NORTHWEST – I
Alfalfa
Beaver
Blaine
Canadian
Cimarron
Custer
Dewey
Ellis
Garfield
Grant
Harper
Kay
Kingfisher
Logan
Major
Noble
Roger Mills
Payne
Texas
Woods
Woodward

SOUTH CENTRAL – II
Oklahoma

SOUTHWEST – III
Beckham
Caddo
Carter
Cleveland
Comanche
Cotton
Grady
Greer
Harmon
Jackson
Jefferson
Kiowa
Love
McClain
Stephens
Tillman
Washita

NORTHEAST – IV
Adair
Cherokee
Craig
Creek
Delaware
Lincoln
Mayes
Muskogee
Nowata
Okfuskee
Okmulgee
Osage
Ottawa
Pawnee
Rogers
Wagoner
Washington

NORTH CENTRAL – V
Tulsa

SOUTHEAST – VI
Atoka
Bryan
Choctaw
Coal
Garvin
Haskell
Hughes
Johnston
Latimer
LeFlore
Marshall
McCurtain
McIntosh
Murray
Pittsburg
Pontotoc
Pottawatomie
Pushmataha
Seminole
Sequoyah

STATEMENT OF NOMINATION

Please use the form provided. An electronic version of the document is available at **www.ok.gov/sde/oklahoma-teacher-year**. Click on the Oklahoma Teacher of the Year Application tab.

The _____ School District in the County of _____
SCHOOL DISTRICT COUNTY

nominates the following teacher for Oklahoma Teacher of the Year.

Check One:
☐ MR. ☐ MS. ☐ MRS. ☐ DR.

Check One:
☐ Region I ☐ Region II ☐ Region III ☐ Region IV ☐ Region V ☐ Region VI

_____
FIRST NAME LAST NAME

_____
SCHOOL SITE NAME SCHOOL SITE LEVEL(S)

_____
SCHOOL MAILING ADDRESS CITY ZIP

_____
SCHOOL PHONE

_____
SUPERINTENDENT'S SIGNATURE

_____
DATE

BASIC DATA FORM

NAME OF NOMINEE

HOME PHONE NUMBER | CELL PHONE NUMBER

HOME ADDRESS | CITY | ZIP

SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESS | SUMMER EMAIL ADDRESS

ACHIEVED NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION Check One: ☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ IN PROCESS

LIST AREAS OF NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION

GRADE LEVEL TAUGHT | SUBJECT(S)

YEARS IN PRESENT POSITION | TOTAL YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

NAME OF SUPERINTENDENT Check One: ☐ MR. ☐ MS. ☐ DR.

SUPERINTENDENT'S SUMMER PHONE NUMBER | SUPERINTENDENT'S SUMMER EMAIL ADDRESS

NAME OF PRINCIPAL Check One: ☐ MR. ☐ MRS ☐ DR.

PRINCIPAL'S SUMMER PHONE NUMBER | PRINCIPAL'S SUMMER EMAIL ADDRESS

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

EDUCATIONAL PREPARATION (List most recent first)

Name of College or University	Dates Attended	Degree Earned (i.e., B.A. in Math)

Name of High School Attended	City/State

EMPLOYMENT RECORD OF SERVICE (List most recent first)

Name of School District	Position Held (Include grade level and/or subject area)	Dates

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS (List most recent first)

Name	Position Held (Include offices held and/or other relevant activities)	Dates

LEADERSHIP IN STAFF DEVELOPMENT (List most recent first)

Title | Position Held (Include leadership in the training of future teachers) | Dates

AWARDS AND OTHER RECOGNITION OF TEACHING (List most recent first)

Title | Dates

I hereby give my permission that any or all of the materials/DVD may be shared with persons interested in promoting the Oklahoma Teacher of the Year Program.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

ASSURANCE STATEMENT

The undersigned hereby assures that _____

is a full-time classroom teacher without administrative duties who expects to continue in an active teaching position in the _____ School District during the 2015-2016 school year.

It is understood that if our local teacher of the year is selected to be a **finalist**, he/she will be required to submit a DVD, not to exceed ten (10) minutes of classroom teaching, and attend interview sessions with the Oklahoma Teacher of the Year Selection Committee to be held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma in September 2015.

In addition, Oklahoma's Teacher of the Year will also be Oklahoma's Ambassador of Teaching. As Ambassador, the teacher will share his or her knowledge and resources with fellow educators around the state. It is understood that if our local teacher of the year is selected as **Oklahoma Teacher of the Year**, he/she will be released from his/her classroom duties. The State Legislature has funded the Oklahoma Ambassador of Teaching position to provide for a full-time certified teacher in the classroom of Oklahoma's Teacher of the Year.

_____

SIGNATURE OF SUPERINTENDENT

_____

DATE

PHOTOGRAPH

One (1) photo of yourself suitable for publication; a 5– by 7-inch size is required by the National Teacher of the year program. **Please do not adhere picture to the page**.

PROFESSIONAL BIOGRAPHY

(Limit your response to two (2) double-spaced pages)

What were the factors that influenced you to become a teacher?
Describe what you consider to be your greatest contributions and accomplishments in education.

PROFESSIONAL BIOGRAPHY (continued)

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

(Limit your response to one (1) double-spaced page)

Describe your commitment to your community through service-oriented activities including volunteer work, civic responsibilities, and other group activities.

PHILOSOPHY OF TEACHING

(Limit your response to two (2) double-spaced pages)

Describe your personal feelings and beliefs about teaching, including your own ideas of what makes an outstanding teacher. Describe the rewards you find in teaching. How are your beliefs about teaching demonstrated in your personal teaching style?

PHILOSOPHY OF TEACHING (continued)

EDUCATION ISSUES AND TRENDS

(Limit your response to two (2) double-spaced pages)

What do you consider to be the major public education issues today? Address in-depth, outlining possible causes, effects, and resolutions.

THE TEACHING PROFESSION

(Limit your response to two (2) double-spaced pages)

What do you do to strengthen and improve the teaching profession?
What is and/or what should be the basis for accountability in the teaching profession?

OKLAHOMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

(Limit your response to one (1) double-spaced page)

As Oklahoma's Teacher of the Year, you would serve as a spokesperson and representative for the entire teaching profession. What would be your message?

What would you communicate to professional educators and to the general public?

LETTERS OF ENDORSEMENT

(Each a maximum of one (1) page)

Include three (3), letters supporting your nomination from superintendents, principals, administrators, colleagues, parents, students/former students, or civic leaders.

LETTERS OF ENDORSEMENT

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FORMER TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

2015	Jason Proctor, Tahlequah
2014	Peter L. Markes, Edmond
2013	Elaine Hutchison, Fairview
2012	Kristin Shelby, Hollis
2011	Elizabeth Smith, Byng
2010	Brian Grimm, Tulsa
2009	Heather Sparks, Oklahoma City
2008	Stephanie Canada, Shawnee
2007	Linda-Hasler Reid, Muskogee
2006	Robyn Hilger, Oklahoma City
2005	Susan Illgen, Grove
2004	Cindy Ball, Muskogee
2003	James Kerr, Union
2002	Mike Bynum, Sand Springs
2001	Talita DeNegri, Oklahoma City
2000	Mitsuye Conover, Bartlesville
1999	Lynn Peacher, Jenks
1998	Kay Long, Broken Arrow
1997	George Abshire, Jenks
1996	Stephen Smallwood, Broken Bow
1995	Linda Kay Webb, Broken Arrow
1994	Mary Jane Bassett, Woodward
1993	Betsy Mabry, Enid
1992	Rhonda Harryman, Edmond
1991	Marilyn King, Stillwater
1990	Eugene Earsom, Moore
1989	Mike Adkins, Moore
1988	Dale Long, Oologah-Talala
1987	Geraldine Burns, Fairview
1986	Jane Kennedy, Yukon
1985	Barbara Smith, Miami
1984	Gwen Pasby, Elk City
1983	Nancy O'Donnell, Perry
1982	Kathlyn Reynolds, Putnam City
1981	Alice Gregg, Okay
1980	Sherry Morgan, Sand Springs
1979	Frances Herron, Altus
1978	Pat Kellogg Roller, Ada
1977	June Richardson, Duncan
1976	Wilda Walker, Enid
1975	Maralene Wesner, Idabel
1974	Valerie Carolina, Wewoka
1973	Frankie Minton, Lindsay
1972	Vernice Ware, Bartlesville
1971	Albert Clark, Enid
1970	Ruby Browning, Grove
1969	Trudy McFarland, Stillwater
1968	Edward Hennessee, Lawton
1967	Evelyn Findley Williamson, Oklahoma City
1966	Helen Cosgrove, Norman
1965	Sam Evans, Oklahoma College for Women
1964	Lawana Trout, Sand Springs
1963	Bona Gordey, Tulsa
1962	Flossie Beckett, Lindsay
1961	James Jenkins, Oklahoma City
1960	Mary Gillentine, Ron School
1959	Edna Donley, Alva
1958	Helen White, Duncan
1957	A.B. Herring, Prague
1956	Mary Lawrence, Claremore
1955	Ethel Briggs, Barnsdall

OKLAHOMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR toy

OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION