

***New York State  
Teacher of the Year Program  
is Seeking Nominations for the  
2016 Teacher of the Year!***



***Celebrate Teaching***

4 Finalists and 1 Teacher of the Year; all will serve as  
***Ambassadors for Teachers***

**Apply Now or Nominate a Teacher!**

\*Please feel free to share this link with teachers.  
You can even post it on your own website and help us spread the word!

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/toty/home.html>

**Application Deadline:** February 2, 2015 by 5:00 p.m.

**For further information please contact:**  
THE NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
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## **New York State Teacher of the Year 2016 Information**

### **Purpose**

New York State wishes to recognize and celebrate exceptionally skilled and passionate educators. This year, we will identify five teachers to serve as ambassadors for New York State teachers. Of these five teachers, one will be selected as the New York State Teacher of the Year and nominated for the National Teacher of the Year program.

### **Selection Criteria**

A nominee must:

- be rated “effective” or “highly effective” on his or her annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) or, if the APPR is not applicable to his or her current teaching area, have a record of superior teaching performance as evidenced by student learning gains, assessments, and recognition of work;
- demonstrate exceptional educational talent as evidenced by effective instructional practices and student learning results in the classroom and school;
- be an exceptionally skilled and dedicated teacher;
- be appropriately credentialed within his or her current teaching area and work directly with students in a public school at any grade level or in any subject area from pre-kindergarten through grade 12;
- plan to remain in the field of education during and after his or her year of recognition;
- have a minimum of five years of current teaching experience;
- demonstrate leadership through active roles in the school and community; and
- be poised and articulate, with the energy and equanimity to manage a busy schedule.

While all of these qualifications are considered, the most important qualification is the superior ability to inspire learning in students of all backgrounds and abilities.

### **Teacher of the Year Responsibilities**

Being selected as the New York State Teacher of the Year and nominee for the National Teacher of the Year program is a great honor and responsibility. Selection as New York State Teacher of the Year carries with it an obligation to appear as a keynote speaker and make public appearances. The New York State Teacher of the Year is given the opportunity to participate in professional development trainings around the country (with other state teachers of the year), and traditionally meets the President of the United States at the White House. Schools and districts may also experience several of the other benefits of the Teacher of the Year program, such as:

- access to information and resources gathered by the New York State Teachers of the Year as a result of participation in professional development at the state and/or national levels;
- coaching for other teachers on instructional approaches;
- information and technical support for principals about how to prepare and support excellent teachers; and
- a visit by the Commissioner of Education to the classroom and school of the New York State Teacher of the Year.

### **Nomination and Selection Process**

Any parent, community member, student, or educator can nominate an individual who meets the selection criteria outlined in the section above to be a New York State Teacher of the Year. Nominees must complete and submit the application by Monday, February 2, 2015. For more information on the timeline process, please visit the website. <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/toty/home.html>