

Recognizing Outstanding Teachers

Exceptional teachers deserve peer recognition. NSTA administers several awards that recognize the professional efforts of science teachers and educators. If you are, or know, a science teacher who has made an outstanding contribution to science education, consider applying for one of these awards.

Applications and guidelines for the awards can be downloaded from www.nsta.org/teacherawards. Entrants may apply for more than one award but are eligible to win only one per year. Prizes for each award vary and may include cash, funding for the entrant's science education program, and trips to the NSTA national convention. Unless otherwise noted, awards are open to NSTA members and nonmembers alike. The deadline for the 2005 awards is October 15, 2004, and winners will be announced early in 2005.

The awards for 2005 are:

Ciba Exemplary Middle Level and High School Principal Awards: Recognize one middle level and one high school principal for exemplary science leadership.

Ciba Exemplary Middle Level and High School Science Teaching Awards: Recognize one middle level and one high school teacher who have demonstrated exemplary science teaching.

DCAT Making a Difference Award: Recognizes excellence in a science program developed by middle level science teachers, grades 6–8.

Delta Education/CPO Science Education Awards for Excellence in Inquiry-Based Science Teaching: Recognize Pre-K–12 teachers of science who successfully used inquiry-based science in their classrooms.

Distinguished Informal Science Education Award: Honors an NSTA member who has made extraordinary contributions to the advancement of science education in an informal or nontraditional setting.

Distinguished Service to Science Education Awards: Honor NSTA members who have made extraordinary contributions to the advancement of education in the sciences.

Distinguished Teaching Awards: Recognize NSTA members who are teachers and have made extraordinary contributions to the field of science teaching.

Estes Rocketry/Space Foundation Educator Award: Given to a classroom science teacher of grades 4–12 who has demonstrated excellence in a space science program.



2004 Distinguished Teaching award winner Kenneth Sajwan (center) with NSTA President John Penick (left) and President elect Anne Tweed (right).

Faraday Science Communicator Award: Recognizes an individual or organization that has inspired and elevated the public's interest and appreciation of science.

Gustav Ohaus Award for Innovations in Science Teaching: Honors a science teacher who has developed an innovative program 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.

Robert H. Carleton Award: Recognizes an NSTA member who has made outstanding contributions to and provided leadership in science education at the national level and to NSTA in particular.

Science Screen Report Award: Recognizes a teacher who has creatively used commercially available films or videotapes to develop a science unit or theme.

Shell Science Teaching Award: Recognizes one outstanding K–12 science teacher who has had a positive impact through exemplary classroom science teaching.

Vernier Technology Awards: Reward the innovative use of data collection technology using a computer, graphing calculator, or other handheld device in the science classroom.