

## Data Sheet

*This form must be **typed** in 12 pt. or larger type and include it with the rest of your nomination material.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

School/Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Principal or Dean \_\_\_\_\_

Work address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title \_\_\_\_\_

For teachers, what subject(s) do you teach \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

For what grade(s) \_\_\_\_\_

### Nominee's District/Institution Information

Superintendent or Institution President \_\_\_\_\_

District/Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

OEA Local Affiliate \_\_\_\_\_

Local Affiliate President \_\_\_\_\_

## Submission Instructions

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 five originals, complete package for receipt at OEA Headquarters by 5 p.m. CST, January 31, 2011. Submissions by fax or email are not permitted.

### Send your nomination package to:

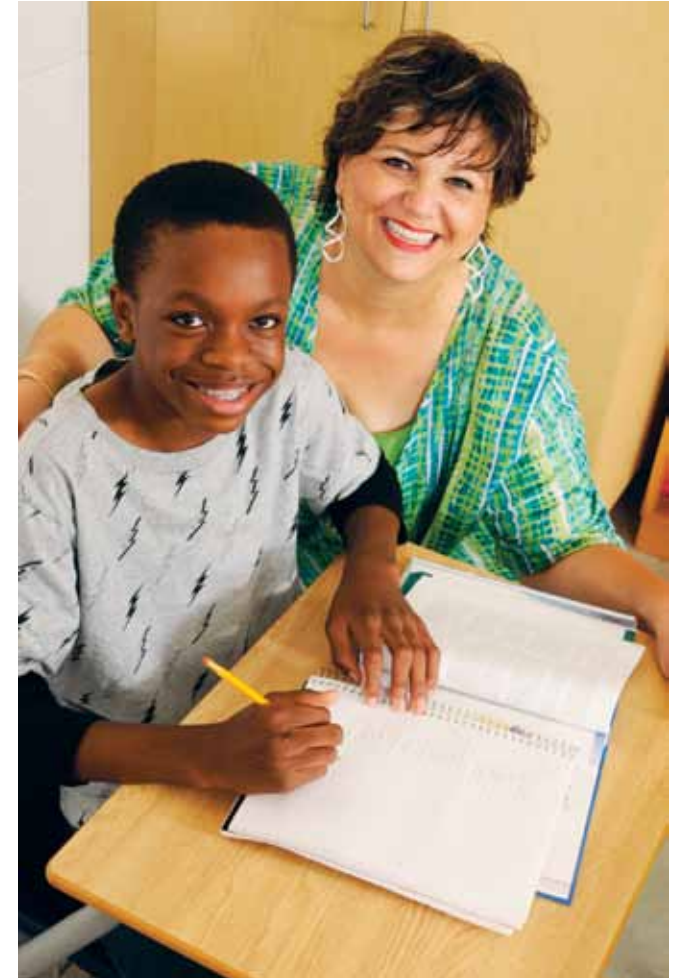
NFIE Award for Teaching Excellence  
Oklahoma Education Association  
Attention Rheta Kennedy  
PO Box 18485  
Oklahoma City, OK 73154

**For more information** on the NFIE Award or how to complete the packet, contact Dr. Dottie Hager, OEA Associate Executive Director, at 800/522-8091, or at [dhager@okea.org](mailto:dhager@okea.org).



Oklahoma Education Association  
*Great public schools for every child*

# Honoring Excellence



**2011 NEA Foundation Award  
for Teaching Excellence**  
*OEA Nomination Criteria*

# NEA Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence

## Identifying Excellence

The Oklahoma Education Association, the National Education Association and the NEA Foundation for the Improvement of Education (NFIE) all believe that every student deserves a quality education and that teaching is the single most important component of a quality education. It is appropriate, therefore, that the NEA and its foundation should recognize one of our own members for teacher excellence.

In an effort “to recognize, reward and promote excellence in teaching and advocacy for the profession,” the NEA and NFIE annually present the NEA Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence to one of its members. By selecting and celebrating a national winner of this award, we honor teaching excellence, public education, and our dedicated members.

## A Prestigious Award

The NEA Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence gives cash awards to five recipients. The top prize is \$25,000, a commemorative plaque and national recognition.

All affiliate 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. One of the five will be selected to receive *The NEA Member Benefits Award for Teaching Excellence*, \$25,000, and a personalized gift. The remaining four each receive \$10,000.

## Eligibility

All current members of an NEA local affiliate or bargaining unit are eligible, including teachers, education support professionals, and higher education faculty and staff. NEA state affiliates, the Federal Education Association, and direct affiliates may each submit one nomination per year. Only nominations submitted and endorsed by one of these affiliates will be considered.

## Deadline

Complete, original nominations with all supporting material must be delivered to Oklahoma Education Association headquarters by 5 p.m. January 31, 2010. Faxed or emailed forms will not be accepted.

## Criteria

**Professional Practice:** The nominee demonstrates instructional expertise, creativity, and innovation. The nominee uses a variety of pedagogical techniques and effectively addresses students’ different learning styles and needs. The nominee is an instructional leader at the local, state, and/or national level. (20 points)

**Advocacy for the Profession:** The nominee is a current, active member of the local, state, and/or National Education Association, and has assumed leadership roles at one or more of these levels. The nominee is an active member of other professional organizations and engages in activities that advance the profession and public education. The nominee speaks out on behalf of public education, educators and students. (15 points)

**Community Engagement:** The nominee frequently interacts with parents and other community members on substantive education issues. The nominee brings community resources to the classroom and conducts service learning projects with his or her students in the community. (5 points)

**Leadership in Professional Development:** The nominee continually engages in experiences to improve his or her practice and to gain new skills and knowledge. The nominee shares this new learning with colleagues in a variety of venues. The nominee’s participation in and commitment to professional development has a visible impact on his or her institution, students, and community. (5 points)

**Attention to Diversity:** The nominee works to provide a learning environment that meets the needs of all students, regardless of differences. The nominee recognizes and explicitly addresses the full array of values, cultures, and experiences represented in our diverse modern society, both through curriculum and instruction and in other interactions with students. (5 points)

## Nomination Contents and Formatting

Nomination packages must include all of the materials listed below, in the specified order. Nominations that do not conform to these specifications will be disqualified.

**A. Data Sheet** – complete the form in this brochure, or download an electronic version at [www.neafoundation.org/teachexcel/datasheet.doc](http://www.neafoundation.org/teachexcel/datasheet.doc), and include with your nomination packet. (Typed, 12 pt. or larger, and a one-page maximum.)

**B. Resume** – **1 page maximum**, double-spaced, 12-pt. or larger type, 1-inch or greater margins on all sides. May use narrative, bulleted lists or both. The resume provides a brief, factual overview of the nominee’s career, including positions held, degrees attained, honors received, etc. The resume may also describe personal achievements or activities that are not noted elsewhere.

**C. Nominee’s Statement** – **5 pages maximum**, double-spaced, 12-pt. or larger type, 1-inch margins on all sides. The nominee’s statement must be written by the nominee as a first-person narrative. The statement includes specific examples to il-

lustrate all five of the award criteria (see Criteria above). The questions themselves do not need to be reproduced in the text; however, nominees are strongly encouraged to include headings or keywords to aid the panelists in their reading.

**The nominee’s statement should address the following:**

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 NEA or OEA 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?
4. What experience 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, 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 about how your approach to teaching made a difference for a student or a group of students.
7. What advice would you give someone entering the profession on how to attain teaching excellence?

**D. Letters of Endorsement** – **Up to three letters, 2 pages maximum each**, 12-pt. or larger type, 1-inch margins on all sides, double-space preferred. Must be submitted with all other nomination materials. Letters of endorsement are written by the nominee’s local affiliate president, colleagues, current or former students, parents, or community members. Letters should be signed, and the salutation should address the state affiliate selection committee or the national panel for The NEA Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence.

**E. Submit a digital photo of yourself for publicity purposes. (jpg format, 524,288-byte limit)**

*(See submission instructions on the back panel)*