



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Johnny Key, Commissioner

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CONTACT: Kimberly Friedman

PHONE: (501) 683-4788

kimberly.friedman@arkansas.gov

Four Named Arkansas Teacher of the Year State Finalists

LITTLE ROCK — Four outstanding teachers were named 2016 Arkansas Teacher of the Year state finalists at a recognition event today with Gov. Asa Hutchinson and Arkansas Department of Education Commissioner Johnny Key.

“Selecting just four teachers from an exceptional group of talented educators was a difficult process,” Key said. “The four state finalists chosen, however, have demonstrated leadership, knowledge and the ability to inspire students in the classroom. I congratulate them, as well as their administrators and fellow educators.”

The four state finalists are as follows:

Meghan Ables

11th Grade English/Literacy

Stuttgart High School

Stuttgart School District

Arkansas River Education Service Cooperative

Brenda Galliher

8th Grade Science

Nashville Junior High School

Nashville School District

DeQueen-Mena Education Service Cooperative

Stephanie Goodman

6th Grade Mathematics

Hot Springs Intermediate School

Hot Springs School District

Dawson Education Service Cooperative

Michael Rogers

9th-12th Grade Agriculture

Siloam Springs High School

Siloam Springs School District

Northwest Education Service Cooperative

The four state finalists were selected from among the 15 regional finalists, who also were recognized at the event today. The ATOY Selection Committee will conduct site visits with the four state finalists, and the 2016 ATOY will be recognized at a surprise notification event later this fall.

The regional finalists each received a \$1,000 award sponsored by the Walton Family Foundation. The 2016 ATOY will receive an additional \$14,000.

To learn more about the ATOY program, go to <http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/communications/teacher-of-the-year>.

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