



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Johnny Key, Commissioner

September 7, 2015

CONTACT: Kimberly Friedman

PHONE: (501) 683-4788

kimberly.friedman@arkansas.gov

15 Teachers Selected as Arkansas Teacher of the Year Regional Finalists

LITTLE ROCK — Fifteen exceptional teachers have been selected as 2016 Arkansas Teacher of the Year Regional Finalists.

“To be selected as a regional finalist is an honor,” Arkansas Department of Education Commissioner Johnny Key said. “These outstanding teachers have set the standard of excellence for their schools, districts and the state. I commend them for their dedication, commitment and hard work.”

Gov. Asa Hutchinson and Commissioner Key will recognize the regional finalists at 10:30 a.m. Sept. 17 in the Old Supreme Court room at the Capitol. During the ceremony, the top four finalists will be announced.

The 15 regional finalists are as follows.

Meghan Ables

11th Grade English/Literacy
Stuttgart High School
Stuttgart School District
Arkansas River Education Service Cooperative

Lindsey Barton

2nd Grade
Monticello Elementary School
Monticello School District
Southeast Arkansas Education Service Cooperative

Vaughanda Bowie

4th Grade Science/Literacy
West Magnet Elementary School of Visual and Performing Arts

Batesville School District
Northcentral Arkansas Education Service Cooperative

Brandon Cooper

10th-12th Grade World History
Russellville High School
Russellville School District
Arch Ford Education Service Cooperative

Audrey Craven

10th-12th Grade Math (Geometry)
Academies of West Memphis
West Memphis School District
Great Rivers Education Service Cooperative

Shedrich Franklin

5th-6th Grade Social Studies
College Hill Middle School in Texarkana
Texarkana School District
Southwest Arkansas Education 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

Jerry Haynes

7th-12th Grade Mathematics
Walnut Ridge High School
Lawrence County School District
Northeast Arkansas Education Cooperative

Laurie Hicks

10th-12th Grade Visual Art
Magnolia High School
Magnolia School District
South Central Education Service Cooperative

Robert Mayes

10th-12th Grade AP Calculus, Algebra II, AP Physics
Searcy High School
Searcy School District
Wilbur D. Mills Education Service Cooperative

Kimberly Rahi

5th Grade Literacy
Barling Elementary School
Fort Smith School District
Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative

Michael Rogers
9th-12th Grade Agriculture
Siloam Springs High School
Siloam Springs School District
Northwest Education Service Cooperative

Spencer Sutterfield

11th-12th Grade Drama/Theatre Arts
Parkview Arts and Sciences High School
Little Rock School District
Pulaski County

LaJuana Warner

7th-9th Grade Vocal Music
Annie Camp Junior High School
Jonesboro School District
Crowley's Ridge Education Service Cooperative

The Arkansas Teacher of the Year program is part of the National Teacher of the Year program, which began in 1952. Teachers who exhibit strong teaching skills, leadership and dedication are nominated for the award.

A long-time supporter, the Walton Family Foundation is providing a grant allowing each regional finalist to receive a \$1,000 award. The teacher selected as the Arkansas Teacher of the Year will receive an additional \$14,000.

The selection committee will conduct site visits for each of the four finalists. During the site visits, the committee will observe the teacher in the classroom and conduct interviews with the teacher and school administration. A surprise notification announcing the 2016 Arkansas Teacher of the Year will be held later this fall.

In addition to the recognition ceremony, a reception for the regional finalists will be held in Room 207 at the Capitol immediately following the event Sept. 17. An ADE Communications Cabinet meeting involving the regional finalists will follow at 11:30 a.m. in the ADE Auditorium at the Arkansas Department of Education. State Board of Education members may be in attendance at all events, but

no official SBE business will be conducted.

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

[Follow us on Twitter @ArkansasEd.](#)

[Like us on Facebook at Arkansas Department of Education.](#)

ArkansasEd.org

Arkansas Department of Education | Four Capitol Mall | Little Rock, AR 72201

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

Four Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR | 72201 US

This email was sent to kimberly.friedman@arkansas.gov.
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

