



The Civil Rights/Civil Liberties Excellence in Teaching Award **Sponsored by the Virginia Council for the Social Studies and Nystrom Education**

- The Civil Rights/Civil Liberties: Excellence in Teaching Award recognizes and honors the accomplishments of a Virginia social studies educator in the area of Civil Rights/Civil Liberties. Nominees inspire students to be fully informed about their Civil Rights and Civil Liberties assured by the constitution. This teacher is someone who inspires students to take informed action when they see injustices and to be a responsible contributing member of our democracy. This award serves to honor a person who is striving to continue their work advancing civil rights and civil liberties. The recipient will be recognized at the annual Virginia Council for Social Studies Educators Conference.

Award

- \$250 cash award and award from Nystrom Education.
- Recognition at the Virginia Council for Social Studies Educators Annual Conference luncheon.

Criteria

- The educator has made a significant effort to teach the concept of justice in creative, inspiring ways. This might include, but not be limited to, teaching about civil liberties, human rights, international justice, the Holocaust, genocide studies, and local issues of justice.
- For example, nominees may design a special lesson, course of study, create a school or district project, or lead their students in some way to promote civil rights or civil liberties.
- Close attention will be focused on applicants who possess the ability to expose injustice while at the same time inspiring their students to repair the world through justice, service, or advocacy.
- The Award winner will be asked to receive the award in person and give a short acceptance speech of 2-3 minutes on what the award means to them. The presentation will take during the luncheon during the annual Virginia Council for Social Studies Educators Conference.

Eligibility

- Minimum 3 years' teaching experience
- If an Elementary teacher, the applicant must be currently teaching social studies.
- If a Secondary teacher, the applicant must teach Social Studies for the majority of the day.
- Will continue to teach a minimum of one year after receiving the award
- Be employed in good standing by a school district or private school located in Virginia.

Nominations

- Anyone may nominate an applicant, including self-nominations.
- At least one letter supporting the nomination must be submitted. (For self-nominations, there must be an accompanying letter of recommendation from another source.)
- It should be noted that the award is not designed as a "lifetime achievement award," but one that recognizes great teaching by any nominee with a minimum of three years' experience.
- **Deadline for nominations is June 30, 2017.**



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- NOMINEE INFORMATION-

Name: _____ Title: _____

School: _____

Address: _____ Home Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Home Telephone: _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

-NOMINATOR-

Nominator: _____

(“yourself,” if self-nominated)

Address: _____ Telephone: _____

_____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Relationship to Nominee: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Attach at least one letter supporting the nomination. The letter should provide an explanation regarding the nominee’s teaching accomplishments which specifically are related to at least one of the three award criteria listed above. (For self-nominations, there must be an accompanying letter of recommendation from another source.) Additional letters or supporting materials may be included.

Send two (2) copies of the original application with supporting materials to:

India Meissel, Box 39, Battery Park, Virginia 23304

- **Completed applications must be postmarked by June 30, 2017.**
- If you would like a notification of your received application, please email indiameissel@spsk12.net