

November 16th, 2019 Volume: 12 Number: 40

From our Friends at National Indian Education Association.

The College Affordability Act (CAA) is a responsible, comprehensive overhaul of our higher education system that would immediately lower the cost of college for students and families at a fraction of the cost of the GOP tax cut. Under the College Affordability Act (H.R. 4674), students will spend less and earn more. The CAA... • Lowers the cost of college for students and their families by reinvesting in higher education, • Improves the quality of higher education by holding schools accountable for students' success, and • Expands opportunity for students from all backgrounds by providing flexible college options and stronger support to meet students' individual needs

<https://edlabor.house.gov/imo/media/doc/The%20College%20Affordability%20Act%20-%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf>

Esther Martinez Native American Languages Preservation Act According to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), 74 Native languages stand to disappear within the next decade. Equally alarming, scholars project that without immediate and persistent action, only 20 Native languages will be spoken by 2050. In 2006, Congress recognized critical role of Native languages and took steps to address this alarming trend by authorizing the Esther Martinez Native American Languages Preservation Act (Act). Through grants to language immersion programs, language survival schools, and language restoration programs, this legislation promotes thriving programs that successfully pass on Native languages to American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian students. <https://files.constantcontact.com/9d91773f001/91a5beb6-6192-42f2-b5f4-19f2a0700c1b.pdf>

States Where Rural Educators Earn the Highest Salaries School staffers earn an average of more than \$100,000 in two states. https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/slideshows/states-where-rural-teachers-earn-the-highest-salaries?utm_source=usn_tw

Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators

The Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators recognizes outstanding kindergarten through grade 12 teachers who employ innovative approaches to environmental education and use the environment as a context for learning for their students. Up to two teachers from each of EPA's 10 regions, from different states, will be selected to receive this award. The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) administers this award to honor, support and encourage educators who incorporate environmental education in their classrooms and teaching methods.

Applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. ET on January 15, 2020.

<https://www.epa.gov/education/presidential-innovation-award-environmental-educators>

The Modern Women of Rural America by Deborah Fallows

How to Get More Rural Students Ready for College? Start With Broadband. By Goldie Blumenstyk <https://www.chronicle.com/article/How-to-Get-More-Rural-Students/247533>

Point of View: Rural America needs STEM education

<https://oklahoman.com/article/5646860/point-of-view-rural-america-needs-stem-education>

NREA Executive Committee November Ballot: Voting ends November 30th.

Rural School Administrator Election: (Please vote for 1 candidate):

Mr. Sean Rickert or Dr. Kristin Brown

Voting Link: https://utk.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_55BrEm7GkeapTZr

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE "I AM A RURAL TEACHER" CAMPAIGN

Last week, we launched our new project "I Am a Rural Teacher". This narrative-focused national media campaign will feature ten diverse rural teacher voices. In

these media pieces, we will highlight both the opportunities and challenges that passionate educators face in their positions. Additionally, we will place the teachers and schools in the context of their rural communities, to illustrate the critical role that rural schools play in their broader communities.

We will be featuring rural educators from the Ozarks, Midwest, Southwest, Southern Border, Appalachia, Northern California, Rocky Mountains, Upper Plains, New England, and Alabama's Black Belt.

I Am a Rural Teacher is a collaboration between the Community Foundation of the Ozarks, Rural Schools Collaborative, National Rural Education Association, Alabama's Black Belt Teacher Corps, and Missouri's Ozarks Teacher Corps. The project is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The "I Am a Rural Teacher" Campaign is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. We want to thank them for providing a national platform for authentic rural teacher voices. Stay tuned! <http://ruralschoolscollaborative.org/stories/you-are-invited-to-join-the-i-am-a-rural-teacher-campaign>

Rural Teacher Fellowship Program:

Applications opened October 15th for Stanford University's Hollyhock Fellowship Program, which is a free and fully funded fellowship for high school teachers with 2-7 years of experience who teach in schools where at least 50% of the students qualify for free and reduced lunch. Any teacher across America who meets the eligibility requirements can apply until January 15, 2020. In addition, school leaders of the teacher teams accepted will be invited to Stanford U. for a Hollyhock School Leaders Institute next summer. You can read about Hollyhock's impact and success [HERE](#) and why teachers you know should consider applying [HERE](#). Let us know if you would like more information. We would be happy to talk about why this professional learning experience celebrates teachers, develops their capacity to lead from the classroom, improves their instruction, and helps them to be more culturally sustaining. Join us for an information webinar on Thursday, November 21 at 6:30 p.m. EST.

The Hollyhock Project Team

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Hollyhock Promotional Video

“Revisiting Our Rural Roots: Supporting Students, Preparing Teachers, and Collaborating with Communities to Influence Excellence in Rural Education”

The Center for Rural Education was founded to encourage post-secondary goals for rural Tennessee students, support pre-service teaching candidates from rural areas, enhance the professional opportunities for rural teachers, and contribute to the profession with rural research. This inaugural conference is the next step in the journey to accomplish those goals. Please join us on March 24, 2020, as we explore the theme, Revisiting Our Rural Roots: Supporting Students, Preparing Teachers, and Collaborating with Communities to Influence Excellence in Rural Education.” This one-day conference intends to foster collaboration as we pool ideas, share information, and provide tools and resources to support our rural counties.

- Call for Presenters
- Call for Sponsors
- Call for Exhibitors