

Golden Apple Foundation

NEWS RELEASE

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31 teachers named finalists for Golden Apple Awards

(CHICAGO — Feb. 21, 2008) The Golden Apple Foundation today announced the names of 31 Chicago-area finalists for the 2008 Golden Apple Awards for Excellence in Teaching in grades 4 through 8.

A total of 850 teachers from Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, and Will counties were nominated for the award, which was first presented in 1986. Ten Golden Apple Award winners, selected from the 30 finalists, will be announced in mid-April.

The 31 finalists include

- **Cook County, 26**
 - **Chicago, 20:** Academy of St. Benedict, Boone, Christopher, Clark (2 teachers), Gallistel, Gray, Madero, National Teachers, Pershing West (2 teachers), Pierce, Ruiz, St. Gall, St. Malachy, Sheridan, Sherman (2 teachers), Stone, University of Chicago – Donoghue.
 - **Suburban, 6:** **Glencoe** (Glencoe Central), **Glenview** (Glen Grove), **Northfield** (Sunset Ridge), **Oak Park** (two teachers at Beye), **Palatine** (Quest Academy)
- **Kane County, 1:** **Carpentersville** (Sunny Hill)
- **Lake County, 3:** **Barrington** (Roslyn Road), **Hawthorne Woods** (Lake Zurich North), **Lincolnshire** (Wright)
- **Will County, 1:** **Plainfield** (Kennedy)

A complete list of finalists and their schools is at the end of this release.

The finalists will be honored Saturday, March 15 at the Celebration of Excellence in Teaching from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency McCormick in Chicago.

The Awards selection committee is comprised of Chicago-area educators. Two committee members will observe each of the 30 finalists in the classroom and interview their principal and selected colleagues, parents and students. The 10 Golden Apple Award winners will be announced in Mid-April. The winners will be honored at an awards ceremony on September 6 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago, which subsequently will be aired as a one-hour prime-time special on WTTW/Channel 11.

Each of the 10 Golden Apple Award winners will receive a tuition-free fall-term sabbatical at Northwestern University, a personal computer, \$3,000, and membership in the Golden Apple Academy, which has inducted 220 expert teachers in the past 22 years to ensure that all children have the excellent teachers they deserve.

2008 Golden Apple Award Finalists
(Grades 4-8)

Holly Bontkowski 8 th grade	Kennedy Middle School 12350 E. Essington Rd. , 815-439-8024	Plainfield Cook
Carol Broos Music, 4-8	Sunset Ridge 525 Sunset Ridge Rd., 847-881-9400	Northfield Cook
Margaret Burns 5 th grade	Gallistel Language Academy 10347 S. Ewing Ave., 773-535-6540	Chicago Cook
Jennifer Cho 4 th grade	National Teachers Academy 55 W. Cermak Rd., 773-534-9970	Chicago Cook
Lisa Espinosa 7 th grade	Ruiz 2410 S. Leavitt, 773-535-4825	Chicago Cook
Karen Fogg 5 th grade	Beye 230 N. Cuyler, 708-524-3070	Oak Park Cook
Kimberly Gabriel 7 th grade	Glencoe Central 620 Greenwood Ave., 847-835-7600	Glencoe Cook
Monica Gil 7 th grade	Gray 3930 N. Laramie, 773-534-3550	Chicago Cook
Lisa Hinton 6 th grade	Sherman School of Excellence 1000 W. 52 nd St., 773-535-1762	Chicago Cook
Heather Kelsey 6 th -8 th grade	St. Gall 5515 S. Sawyer Ave., 773-737-3454	Chicago Cook
Samina Khan Science 6-8	Clark Magnet HS 5101 W. Harrison St., 773-534-6250	Chicago Cook
Virginia Kogen 7 th -8 th grade	Madero Middle School 3202 W. 28 th St., 773-535-4466	Chicago Cook
Nancy Kontney 5 th grade	Sunny Hill 2500 Helm Rd., 847-426-4232	Carpentersville Kane
Brenda Kraber 3 rd -5 th grade	Glen Grove 3900 Glenview Rd., 847-998-5030	Glenview Cook
Sharon Kranz 4 th grade	Roslyn Road 22 Roslyn Road, 847-381-4148	Barrington Lake
Rebecca Leff 4 th grade	Quest Academy 500 N. Benston St., 847-202-8035	Palatine Cook
Patrick McAndrew 5 th grade	Beye 230 N. Cuyler Ave., 708-524-3070	Oak Park Cook
Mary Meade Science 1-8	Christopher 5042 S. Artesian, 773-535-9375	Chicago Cook
Daniel Morvaji 6 th grade	Lake Zurich North Middle School 95 Hubbard Lane, 847-719-3600	Hubbard Woods Lake
Joanna Navarro 6 th grade	Sherman School of Excellence 1000 W. 52 nd St., 773-535-1757	Chicago Cook
Mark Nelson Fine Arts K-8	Stone Academy 6239 N. Leavitt, 773-534-2045	Chicago Cook
Natalie Neris-Guereca 5 th grade	Pershing West Magnet 3200 S. Calumet, 773-534-9240	Chicago Cook
John Nieciak Language Arte 6 th & 8 th	Sheridan Magnet 533 W. 27 th St., 773-534-9120	Chicago Cook

Katherine Noonan 6 th -8 th grade	St. Malachy 2252 W. Washington Blvd., 312-733-2252	Chicago Cook
Esther Ohito 6 th -8 th grade	Pershing West Magnet 3200 S. Calumet, 773-534-9240	Chicago Cook
Claudine Randolph 5 th grade	U. of Chicago Donoghue Charter 707 E. 37 th St., 773-729-5300	Chicago Cook
Karina Richter Special Education, 8th	Wright Junior HS 1370 Riverwoods Rd., 847-295-1560	Lincolnshire Lake
Talyia Riemer 6 th grade	Boone 6710 N. Washtenaw, 773-534-2160	Chicago Cook
Veronica Ruelas Math & Science, 6 th & 8 th	Academy of St. Benedict the African 6200 S. Laflin, 773-776-3316	Chicago Cook
Brooke Thompson Music, K-8	Pierce School of International Studies 1432 W. Bryn Mawr, 773-534-2440	Chicago Cook
Donnell White Math, 7-8	Clark Magnet HS 5101 W. Harrison St., 773-534-6250	Chicago Cook