

# GOLDEN APPLE HONOREES REAP RECOGNITION, SOW NEW GENERATION OF TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Cheers, accolades and well-deserved attention surrounded the 10 Chicago-area teachers recently selected as winners of the 2010 Golden Apple Awards for Excellence and new Fellows in the Golden Apple Academy of Educators. Golden Apple representatives, friends, family, members of the media and special guests surprised the 10 Fellows in their classrooms with the [news on May 11 and 12](#).

- As English teacher Jungsun Moon learned of his award, the school marquee proclaimed his achievement.
- Physics teacher Scott Reed caught a golden pass—a basket of Mrs. Prindables gourmet apples—from Bulls legend Sidney Green.
- Literary studies teacher Patrice Turk found herself moved to tears by the honor, after 39 years of teaching.
- Choral music director Dr. David Baar heard the vocal adoration of his students and later joined broadcasters on the CBS2 morning show.
- Hugs, flowers, and laughter confirmed the importance of Algebra teacher Rosalind Kline-Thomas to her school.

This is only the beginning of what the Golden Apple means for these and five other 2010 Fellows: Anthony Curtis, Jacob Gourley, Susan Harsa, Darshan Jain, and Aaron Reedy. Selected from 562 nominees, the Fellows will be honored at a black tie event at WTTW/Channel 11 studios. Each selected Fellow receives a tuition-free, six-month sabbatical to study at Northwestern University and a \$3,000 cash award.

Most important, these newly recognized teachers of excellence will help cultivate teaching quality in new generations. As Fellows of the Golden Apple Academy of Educators, award-recipients play an integral part in the [Golden Apple Scholars program](#), preparing talented and committed future educators for success in economically and educationally disadvantaged Illinois schools since 1989.

This summer, Golden Apple welcomes a new class of 105 Scholars to its annual Summer Institute. These passionate, motivated young people, selected from 528 applicants among 2,125 nominated students, attend Summer Institutes and receive additional mentoring and classroom observation from Fellows to help them turn their passion into student achievement—and thrive in a high-needs setting. Scholars also receive college tuition assistance that makes it financially feasible for them to attend Illinois colleges and universities and pursue their teaching dreams.

- By the time Scholars enter the classroom as teachers, they have acquired more than three times the classroom experience of traditionally prepared teachers. Teaching Scholars continue to benefit from ongoing mentoring and conferences through Golden Apple.
- 93% of Scholars continue teaching students at disadvantaged schools beyond the five-year commitment required by the program.
- In a survey of principals with one or more Scholars teaching in their schools, more than 75% of respondents rated Scholars as more effective on characteristics including preparation, professionalism, and fostering a positive learning environment.

[Learn more](#) about Golden Apple's full-circle approach to recognizing and building teacher excellence. Find out how to [support](#) our programs.

## GOLDEN APPLE AWARDS

- 25 years of recognition
- Fellows have directly helped 5,000+ Illinois teachers become more effective in the classroom and indirectly helped tens of thousands more

## GOLDEN APPLE SCHOLARS

- 22 years of preparation
- 700 creative, resilient teachers, committed to making a difference in Illinois schools of need
- 350 undergraduate Scholars currently preparing to become teachers
- 105 new Scholars
  - 33% from low-income families
  - 45% from 1st generation in family to attend college
  - 54% representing minority populations

*"Schools educating the highest concentrations of low-income students and students of color get less than their fair share of every important resource—especially experienced and knowledgeable teachers."*

- Kati Haycock, President,  
The Education Trust

*"She was by far the most prepared teacher I have hired right out of college.... In her second year of teaching, I would consider her one of my top teachers."*

- Principal response,  
Golden Apple Scholar survey

*"Thanks to Golden Apple, I feel confident about teaching. ...I now have close personal relationships with some of the best teachers in Illinois, allowing me to call upon them whenever I need help."*

- 2004 Golden Apple Scholar

SCHOLARS PROGRAM | FELLOWS ANNOUNCEMENT | 2010 FELLOWS | SUPPORT GA | 25TH ANNIVERSARY

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