



Golden Apple

Executive Bio

Dominic Belmonte

President and Chief Executive Officer

Dominic Belmonte took the helm of Golden Apple as President and Chief Executive Officer in May 2006. He previously served as Director of Teacher Preparation for the organization, a position he held since 1996. Belmonte first became involved with Golden Apple in 1987, when he received the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching. During his twenty years in the classroom, he taught English and chaired the English department at York Community High School, in Elmhurst, Illinois.

As one of the earliest members of the Golden Apple Academy of Educators, comprised of all Golden Apple Award recipients, Belmonte co-created the Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois program, now the largest pre-service teacher preparation program in the nation. He also co-created the Golden Apple Teacher Education program (GATE)—the first alternative pathway to teacher preparation in Illinois.

Belmonte is the author of two books, *Teaching From the Deep End* and *Teaching on Solid Ground*, both published by Corwin Press, California. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in English at the University of Illinois at Chicago and was conferred an honorary doctorate in humane letters from St. Xavier University.