

Rising Star Teacher Award

Purpose: To recognize outstanding first through fifth year teachers, grades k-12, who are half to full-time teachers of social studies.

Criteria:

- Nominations, including self-nominations, accepted
- Demonstrates exceptional abilities in one or more of the following categories-
 1. develops and uses resources and materials creatively and innovatively
 2. incorporates verified effective instructional strategies
 3. demonstrates ability to foster democratic principles and values, including citizenship participation
 4. shows evidence of professional growth and community service

Application Requirements:

- Vitae or professional resume submitted by the applicant/nominee
- Up to three letters of recommendation, one from immediate supervisor, total not to exceed eight pages, including contact information
- Emailed or receipt through postal service no later than July 1, 2009

Outstanding Teacher of the Year

Purpose: To recognize exceptional elementary or secondary social studies teachers who teach social studies at least half-time.

Criteria:

- Self-nominations will be accepted.
- Current OCSS membership.
- Demonstrates exceptional abilities in one or more of the categories below-
 1. Develop or use instructional materials creatively and effectively.
 2. Incorporate innovative and verified effective strategies and techniques.
 3. Utilize recent scholarship from history, the social studies, or other appropriate disciplines.
 4. Demonstrates ability to foster a spirit of inquiry and the development of skills related to acquiring, organizing, processing, using information, and making decisions
 5. Demonstrates ability to foster the development of democratic beliefs and values, and the skills needed for civic participation
 6. Shows evidence of professional involvement and leadership in activities such as workshops, curriculum development, committees, and other associated activities.

Nomination Requirements:

- Vitae or professional resume submitted by the applicant/nominee
- Up to three letters of recommendation, one from immediate supervisor, total not to exceed eight pages, including contact information
- Emailed or receipt through postal service no later than July 1, 2009

Higher Education Award

Purpose: To recognize exceptional classroom social studies educators who teach social studies regularly and systematically in college and university settings.

Criteria:

- Self-nominations will be accepted.
- Maintenance of current OCSS membership.
- Demonstrates exceptional abilities in one or more of the categories listed below-
 1. Develop or use instructional materials creatively and effectively.
 2. Incorporate innovative and verified effective instructional strategies and techniques.
 3. Utilize new scholarship from history, the social studies, or other appropriate fields.
 4. Demonstrates ability to foster a spirit of inquiry and the development of skills related to acquiring, organizing, processing, and using information and research
 5. Fosters democratic principles and the skills needed for civic participation appropriate to school and community settings.
 6. Shows evidence of professional involvement in service and collaboration with public education, through activities such as workshops, curriculum development, committees, and other association activities.

Nomination Requirements:

- Vitae or professional resume submitted by the applicant/nominee
- Up to three letters of recommendation, total not to exceed eight pages, including contact information
- Emailed or receipt through postal service no later than July 1, 2009