NEW ORLEANS EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Nomination Launch - November 1, 2017
Nomination Deadline - December 11, 2017

Background

Launched in 2015, the New Orleans Excellence in Teaching Award is a citywide award to recognize outstanding public school teachers. Educators are nominated by a leader at their school or network for their excellence in:

- increasing student achievement
- their commitment to honing their craft
- their dedication to building strong relationships with their students, and
- their positive impact on their school community.

By honoring these exceptional educators, we celebrate the nearly 3,500 teachers across New Orleans and the amazing work they do to better the lives of our city's students.

The Opportunity

Research shows that the simple act of telling teachers that they are a top performer can help keep them teaching. We believe that by recognizing and celebrating a diverse set of great teachers, we can help ensure a great teacher in every classroom in New Orleans, which will have lasting benefits for students in our city! Whether a teacher wins or not, they will receive the recognition that they deeply deserve.

All finalists will be invited to a breakfast on May 23rd to celebrate their dedication to the students and families of New Orleans. Teachers who are selected as New Orleans Excellence in Teaching Award **winners will also receive $2,000.** New Schools for New Orleans (NSNO) will convene award winners once during the school year to get their perspective on important citywide issues impacting schools.

Requirements

This opportunity is open to all New Orleans public schools.

1. Nominators - School leaders, teacher coaches, and other academic or cultural leaders at any New Orleans public school or network are eligible to nominate exceptional teachers at their schools for this citywide award.
2. Nominated teachers must:
    - be a full-time teacher in a New Orleans public school (Pk - 12) for 2017-2018 school year
    - have at least two years of full-time teaching experience (excluding student teaching) at the end of the 2017-18 school year
    - be committed to teaching in a New Orleans public school in 2018-19
    - embody the selection criteria
        - student achievement
        - strong relationships with students
        - constant learning
        - demonstrated impact on their school community

How to nominate

We anticipate that it will take **approximately 30- 60 minutes** to complete each nomination, including gathering any relevant information and writing your responses.

Review Questions & Examples	Read all questions on the nomination form. Review example responses to the four open-ended nomination questions here. Determine which teachers you will nominate.
Gather Information	We recommend including specific data, anecdotes, and details for each of the four open-ended questions to ensure the selection committee has as much information about your nominated teacher as possible. In previous year, nominations for teachers who ultimately won the award included detailed examples for each essay question. Consider

	talking with the teacher you're planning to nominate if you're looking for more information for a particular question!
Draft Nomination	We recommend a minimum of 150 words for each open-ended response. You will not be able to save your work in the online form, so consider drafting by downloading this to Word.
Complete Nomination Form	Each school should receive a link to the nomination form in an email on November 1, with additional reminders throughout the nomination window. If you are an eligible nominator who has not received this correspondence or if you need it again, please contact us at teachingaward@nsno.org. Since you have your essay drafts ready, you'll just need to enter those and all fields in the online form and **click submit!** Please note that your responses will not be saved until you click submit, so we recommend completing the nomination form in one sitting. If you click submit before completing your nomination, please email teachingaward@nsno.org to recover your draft.

Timeline

November 1, 2017	**Nomination Launch**. Leaders will receive an email link with a form to complete these questions. You are encouraged to share the nomination link with other leaders in your school or networks to nominate as many teachers as possible! If you are an eligible nominator who has not received this correspondence or if you need it again, please contact us at teachingaward@nsno.org
November 1 - December 11, 2017	**Nomination Window**. Leaders work to gather information, anecdotes, and draft responses to submit nominations for teachers. The nomination link will close at midnight on December 11.
December 12 - January 7, 2017	**Nomination Review**. In the event that a nomination is incomplete or ineligible, NSNO will reach out to nominators for additional information.
January 7 - January 26, 2018	**Teacher Application**. All nominated teachers will be asked to complete these questions in an online form in order to move forward in the process.
March 1, 2018	**Finalist Notification**. Teachers and nominators will be notified of finalist status on or before this date.
April 2018	**Video Window**. Finalists will schedule time with NSNO to record a 10-minute video of instruction and three 2-minute student interviews.
May 20, 2018	**Winner Notification**. Teachers and nominators will be notified of winner status on or before this date.
May 23, 2018	**Celebration Breakfast**. Winners, finalists, nominators, school leaders, selected students, and other guests will gather to honor teachers!

If you have additional questions, please email teachingaward@nsno.org