2020 Water Educator of the Year

Texas AWWA
American Water Works Association
Texas Section of the American Water Works Association (TAWWA) Background

TAWWA is a non-profit organization that unites all water professionals in Texas to protect health and water resources by advancing technology, education, science, management and government policies through leveraging the collective leadership of the over 50,000 members of the American Water Works Association.

Understanding the value of water is essential for a thriving state and like all things important for our future, education at all levels is essential. As a leader in the water community, TAWWA is committed to classroom education on all aspects of water.

Water Educator of the Year

The TAWWA Water Educator of the Year Award is intended to publicly recognize Texas K-12th grade classroom educators who exhibit excellence in educating students about the value of water to their school and community.

To become eligible for award consideration, the attached application must be completed by the educator and submitted no later than Tuesday, December 31st, 2019.

The TAWWA Water Educator of the Year will be announced at the 2020 Texas Water Conference, March 31-April 3 in Fort Worth, Texas.

The selected educator will receive:
- Registration to the Science Teacher’s Association of Texas (CAST) 2020 conference
- TAWWA website and newsletter recognition
- $1,000 classroom stipend
- Water Educator of the Year trophy

Qualifications

The Award is open to any Texas K-12 classroom educator (formal educator) who encourages, promotes and teaches the value of drinking water, wastewater, water conservation, storm water and/or water careers within their classroom. To qualify the educator must meet the following guidelines:
- Be able to demonstrate evidence of a water lesson or water project’s impact on students through anecdotal evidence, photos, videos or written narrative.
- Be an educator of “good standing” within their school district.
- Fully complete the application and submit by the deadline.
- Include a letter of recommendation from the school Principal.

Please note that preference may be given to educators who have partnered with a local TAWWA member organization (i.e. local utility, engineering firm, etc.) or a TAWWA individual member.
Water Educator of the Year Application

Name: ______________________________________________________________

School: _______________________________________________________________________

Address: ______________________________________________________________________

City: _________________________________________________________________________

School District: _________________________________________________________________

Grade and/or subject(s) taught: ___________________________________________________

Email: _______________________________ Phone Number: ________________

Home Address: _________________________________________________________________

1. Please describe your philosophy of teaching? (Please answer in 1 to 3 sentences)

2. What is your personal philosophy regarding the value of water in your community? (Please answer in 1 to 3 sentences)

3. Describe a water lesson(s) or project(s) that you have completed (or are still in the process of completing) in the 2019-2020 school year that you believe has made an impact on your students or community. (Please provide anecdotal evidence, photos, videos or a written narrative highlighting this impact in digital format).

4. Related to your answer provided in question 3, what indicators of student engagement were present? (Please answer in 1 to 3 sentences)
5. Related to the answer provided in question 3, what Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) were covered?

6. If we were to interview one of your students about the above lesson(s) or project(s), what would they say about their experience? (Please answer in 1-3 sentences)

7. What water related subject matter is frequently taught in your classroom? (check all that apply)
   - [ ] Drinking Water
   - [x] Wastewater
   - [ ] Water Conservation
   - [ ] Storm Water
   - [ ] Water Careers

8. Have you partnered with any local TAWWA member organizations (i.e. local water utilities, engineering firms, etc.) or TAWWA individual members on the classroom lesson(s) or project(s)?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

   If yes, what was the member organization(s) or individual member(s)?

   Principal’s Signature: ____________________________________________________________

   Educator’s Signature: ____________________________________________________________

   *Please include a letter of recommendation from the school Principal with this application.

   PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION TO:
   Greg Wukasch
   Attn: TAWWA K-12+ Education
   Greg.Wukasch@SAWS.org
   210-233-3631
   Deadline: Tuesday, December 31, 2019.