**STEM: Engaging today’s minds for tomorrow’s possibilities**

**PROGRAM SUMMARY**
The Celebrate Teachers and Teaching (CT&T) award event presented by the Education Deans of Greater Milwaukee and is designed to shine a bright spotlight and celebrate the successes of the women and men who are devoting their professional lives to fostering the learning and development of K-12 students in district, charter and choice schools in our region.

**COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**
The EDGM is pleased to partner with the Greater Milwaukee Committee TeachTown initiative and the Faye McBeath Foundation that will provide $1000 cash awards in both the Early-Career and Advanced-Career categories as well as for the Distinguished Educator of the Year.

**AWARD FOCUS**
The 2016 award focus for Early and Advanced Career nominees is on educators who are doing exemplary work with STEM programs (science, technology, engineering or mathematics.) The Early and Advanced Career awards are open to teachers in any K-12 initiative in Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics education. Teachers from individual disciplines are welcome to apply with preference given to teachers who integrate STEM content across those and other curricular areas (e.g. STEAM—which includes the arts.) Compatible approaches include:

- Experiential learning
- Hands-on, active learning
- Inquiry-based learning activities
- Project-based learning
- Real-world problems

 Winners will be recognized at the 2016 Celebrate Teachers and Teaching event on October 13, 2016.

**ELIGIBILITY**
The CT&T event will recognize one Early-Career educator (less than three years of school experience) and one Advanced-Career educator (three or more years of school experience) who have demonstrated innovation in increasing students’ exposure and accomplishments in STEM skills. Honorable mentions may be granted to other exceptional candidates.

**CRITERIA FOR JUDGING**
An independent panel of judges will review nomination packets and select one winner from each category (i.e., Early Career and Advanced Career). As noted, other nominees may also receive honorable mention. Those selected will demonstrate excellence in literacy as defined in the above award-focus section.

Submissions will be reviewed using the following elements:

- Evidence of supporting positive impact on student learning within STEM content areas,
- Completeness and quality of support materials, and
- Meeting eligibility requirements.

**NOMINATIONS**
Initial nominations should be made online on or before December 14, 2015. Once a nomination has been submitted, the nominee will receive additional instructions on how complete/send supporting documentation required for award consideration.
Submission Guidelines:

- Online nomination must be completed on or before December 14, 2015.
- All application packets must be submitted electronically via email to: Karen.coy-romano@marquette.edu on or before April 30, 2016.
- All supporting documents should be included as attachments.
- Title the subject line of your email: [Your Name] CT&T 2016
- All supporting documents should also be named in the following way:
  - [Your Name] CT&T 2016 Submission: Principal Letter;
  - [Your Name] CT&T 2016 Submission: Evidence of Student Learning Results;
  - [Your Name] CT&T 2016 Submission: Student, Parent, or Community Member Letter.
- The maximum number of pages for written submissions is 10, using Arial 12-point font.

Submission Requirements A (Include all of these):

- A letter from the nominee’s principal in support of the educator’s ability to provide high quality STEM educational content to his/her students. Please describe how the teacher demonstrates innovative approaches in helping students to use experiential, hands-on active learning, inquiry-based learning, or project-based learning with ‘real-world’ problems.

- Evidence of student learning results due to the educator’s innovative approaches to deliver STEM content, such as:
  - Samples of assignment questions/prompts intended to help students to learn and integrate STEM concepts resulting in demonstrative outcomes evidenced by specific activities or hands-on projects that can be shared with the judges.
  - Samples of student reflections about their STEM-learning experiences with the educator. In some cases these may be written responses, but they may also include project samples, mixed media, and other projects or activities that showcase student accomplishments in this area.

Submission Requirements B (Include one choice from the Written Category):

- Written Category:
  - A handwritten or typed one-page letter from a student or parent telling the impact the teacher’s innovative approaches that have helped the learner to understand and integrate one or more of the STEM disciplines (science, technology, engineering, mathematics or art) proficiently/effectively. Also add a brief description of how the teacher’s approach to STEM content delivery has impacted the child’s life, school performance, and attitude. OR
  - A handwritten or typed one-page letter from a community member describing how the educator’s innovative approaches to delivering STEM learning experiences have impacted others.

If you are selected to receive an award, Celebrate Teachers & Teaching reserves the right to reproduce information/photos/other content in promotional materials, on its event website, and for promotional use on social media. By submitting materials that contain images of students and other individuals, you assume complete responsibility for obtaining appropriate release consent forms and permission to transfer these materials to Celebrate Teachers & Teaching. To download and print a Celebrate Teachers & Teaching release form, visit: http://www.marquette.edu/education/celebrate-teachers/celebrate-teaching-nominate-form.php.