



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Patty Ritchie

Ritchie Honors 65 Educators WITH Golden Apple Award

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Teachers Receive Special Funding for Classroom Enrichment

In recognition of their efforts to encourage students to succeed, 65 educators from Oswego, Jefferson and St. Lawrence Counties were awarded State Senator Patty Ritchie's Golden Apple Award for Teaching Excellence at a special ceremony held Friday evening at Pulaski's historic Kallet Theater.

[CLICK HERE TO SEE A VIDEO OF THE EVENT](#)

In addition to receiving the Golden Apple Award, each teacher was also awarded \$500 in special funding for classroom enrichment. The funding—which represents a more than \$30,000 addition to the increase in state education funding local schools received this year—will be used by teachers for making improvements to their classrooms.

“If we think back to our school years, we can all remember a teacher who has made a difference in our life. Whether they are teaching their students how to read and write or are tackling life's bigger lessons—like sharing and treating others with kindness—the impact that educators have on the lives of those they teach cannot be understated,” said Senator Ritchie.

“It's truly my pleasure to honor these 65 individuals who are doing remarkable things in schools throughout our region and creating brighter futures for the students who they dedicate each and every day to.”

Last year, Senator Ritchie recognized more than 40 educators from the Central and Northern New York region through her Golden Apple Award for Teaching Excellence program. Since then, the program has been replicated across New York State by her colleagues in an effort to recognize educators.

The 2014 honorees—who were nominated by colleagues, former students, current students, friends and family members—included the following:

Lisa Balles: Michael A. Maroun Elementary School

Rebecca Ballard: Mexico Middle School

Courtney Belloff-Barker: Black River Elementary

Pamela Bice: Ogdensburg Free Academy

Helen Bolen: Cleveland Elementary

Teresa Burleigh: Central Square Intermediate School

John Canale: Oswego High School

Linda Carney: Augustinian Academy

Margaret Clemens: Hugh C. Williams High School

Jon Cole: Ogdensburg Free Academy

Danielle Crisafulli: G. Ray Bodley High School

Edward Darrh: Central Square Middle School

Pamela Delfino: Minetto Elementary

Toby Draper: Wilson Elementary

Fred Ensworth: Oswego Middle School

Aimee Flynn: St. Marguerite D'Youville Academy

Craig Freitag: Thousand Islands Central School

Andrea Gibbs: Pulaski High School

Christine Haessig: Fitzhugh Park Elementary

Bill Hansen: Millard Hawk Primary School

Sheri Hansen: Millard Hawk Primary School

Elaina Hastings-Gauthier: New Haven Elementary School

Renee Hendrickson: Volney Elementary School

Christine Kassian: Lisbon Central School

Julie Kealy: South Jefferson Middle School
Lisa Keegan: South Jefferson High School
Lynn Kellogg: South Jefferson Central-Middle School
Robert Kuba: Indian River Central School
Stacey Landas: Lura Sharp Elementary School
Arlene Laut: Hannibal High School
Shelly Lee: Millard Hawk Primary School
Tina Lewis: Aura A. Cole Elementary School
Carol Livingston: Mexico Middle School
Jennifer Lyons: Millard Hawk Primary School
Suzanne McLean: Ogdensburg Free Academy
Joni Macaulay: Edwards Knox Central School District
Andrea Mason: Mexico High School
Kylee Monroe: General Brown Jr/Sr High School
Lauren Morley: Ogdensburg Free Academy
Sharon Murdock: Heuvelton Central School
Cindy Niles: St. Mary's Parochial School
Deborah Patterson: New Haven Elementary School
Jeanette Perry: Southwest Tech Center BOCES
Stephanie Plaisted: East Side Elementary
Simmone Pone':Brewerton Elementary School
Margaret Pryor: Mexico Elementary School
Jennifer Putman: Ogdensburg Free Academy
Deborah Reddick: Indian River Central School
Tracy Robertson: Indian River Central School
Cheryl Rogers: Oswego High School
Gina Salerno: Lanigan Elementary School
Lisa Sargent: Lisbon Central School
Carol Scaccia: Hastings-Mallory Elementary
Stacie Shaffer: Ed. Center & Paul V. Moore High School
Dianna Shear: Watertown High School
Paul Sornborger: Sandy Creek Central School
Lisa Spereno: Phoenix Central Schools
Paula Straub: Mexico High School
Lynn Tayler: Morristown Central School
Diane Tedford: Lyme Central
Keira Thurheimer: Case Middle School
TaraVanhorn: South Jefferson Middle School
Maria VanPelt: La Fargeville Central School
Barbara vonHoltz: Trinity Catholic School
Sarah Wood: Hermon-Dekalb Central School