



September 14, 2016

Dear Superintendent, Principal, or Head of School:

Each year the Golden Apple Foundation selects ten outstanding teachers to be recipients of the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching. This year we are looking for 4th-8th grade teachers currently teaching in any public or non-public school in Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry or Will counties. We honor teachers on a three-year grade level cycle. We will honor Pre-K-3rd grade teachers in 2018, and 9th-12th grade teachers in 2019. Because of your direct contact with many excellent teachers, we are asking for your assistance.

Please note the following:

- Nominations are accepted only for full-time classroom teachers who spend the
 majority of their time teaching grades 4th-8th in Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake,
 McHenry or Will counties.
- Only one nomination per teacher is necessary. Nominations may be made by anyone however, a teacher may not nominate him/herself.
- Nominations must be received by the Foundation no later than December 31, 2016.

Since 1985, the Foundation has honored 320 outstanding Pre-K-12th grade teachers from Chicago and the surrounding areas. In addition to being featured in an hour-long television special, recipients receive a \$5000 cash award, and a Spring quarter sabbatical to study tuition-free at Northwestern University. Recipients also become members of the Golden Apple Academy of Educators, comprised of past recipients that are dedicated to transforming teachers and teaching.

Nominations may be completed online at www.goldenapple.org. Please share this information with students, faculty, parent-teacher organizations, student councils, local and school newspapers or other community members with whom you are in contact, as they may know eligible teachers deserving of this award. Thank you for helping us honor outstanding teachers.

If you have any further questions regarding the process, please contact me at **Quintana@goldenapple.org** or 312-407-0006 x121.

Sincerely,

Nellie Quintana

Awards Program Assistant Director: Selection