



## The Guam Teacher of the Year Program

The TEACHER OF THE YEAR PROGRAM recognizes the outstanding contributions and educational efforts of classroom teachers across the island. The classroom teacher is the backbone of Guam's education system. No one person has greater impact on the education of a child than does a teacher who creates and nurtures the learning and instructional environment.

The Guam Teacher of the Year is the role model for the teaching profession. The Guam Teacher of the Year is one who is dedicated and willing to go over and beyond expectations; one whose heart and life's work embraces the needs of the whole child and creatively meets those needs; one who has vision and remains flexible in an ever-changing field; and one who can make a difference in the life of his or her students and leaves behind a positive impression. The Guam Teacher of the Year represents all of Guam's public teachers as an exemplary teacher.

It is the mission of the Guam Teacher of the Year Program to recognize and honor the contributions, efforts, and achievements of the classroom teacher. The Guam Teacher of the Year is an active member of the National Teacher of the Year Program, the nations' oldest and most honored program that focuses public attention on excellence in teaching.

All public school classroom teachers are invited to submit an application to this program. Parents and community members are also encouraged to recommend teachers they know to be exemplary and who meet the program guidelines. It is with this hope that the underlying effort of recognizing outstanding, exceptional and talented teachers – will find its way to all school communities in Guam.

Applications are available:

- on the GPSS web-site [www.gdoe.net](http://www.gdoe.net)
- Division of Curriculum and Instruction Office in Hagatna (call Nikki Monforte 300-1250)
- Contact [nmonforte@gdoe.net](mailto:nmonforte@gdoe.net) for an electronic version



## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS



Applicants must be classroom teachers of grades PreK-12 and a full time employee of the Guam Public School System.

A candidate for Guam Teacher of the Year should be an exceptionally dedicated, knowledgeable, and skilled teacher in an accredited school, pre-kindergarten through grade twelve, who has been actively teaching our island students for five consecutive years and is planning to continue in an active teaching status for the next two years in the Guam Public School System. Qualities of the 2010 Guam Teacher of the Year includes:

- Ability to inspire students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn
- having the respect and admiration of students, parents, and colleagues
- playing an active and useful role in the community as well as in the school
- being poised, articulate, and possess the energy to withstand a taxing schedule

**Classroom Teacher** is defined as a teacher who has a set number of students in a classroom at least 50% of the day and is responsible for issuing grades for these students. Regular classroom teachers, special education teachers, ESL teachers, GATE teachers, Headstart teachers, and vocational instructors are inclusive of this definition.

- Applicants must have taught on Guam for at least five consecutive years prior to applying for the program
- Applicants must not be retiring from or leaving the teaching profession in the Guam Public School System for at least two years after the selection
- Applicants must submit a completed application to the Division of Curriculum and Instruction (Nikki Monforte) **no later than 5:00 p.m. – Friday March 16, 2009.**
- ***Not eligible are: consultants; resource teachers; guidance counselors; school health counselors; librarians; limited, part time, or contract teachers; substitute teachers; retired teachers and former Teachers of Year.***



## APPLICATION GUIDELINES

- Applicants must complete the application and submit it to their school principal for review and approval
- Applicants must provide all information outlined in the application
- Applications **must** be signed by the applicant and the applicant's school principal
- Answers requested in sections I and III must adhere to the following guidelines:
  1. be limited to the number of pages specified
  2. information must be typed using 10 through 12 point fonts
  3. must be double spaced
- Applications must use the specific format and must not be altered in anyway



## TEACHER OF THE YEAR APPLICATION and SELECTION PROCESS

### Application Process

All applications must be filled out completely. Applications must also be signed by the school principal and submitted to the Division of Curriculum and Instruction Office (Nikki Monforte) **no later than 5:00 p.m. Friday March 20, 2009.**

### Selection Process

1. A panel of five judges representing various areas of education will review each application to select the top five applications based on the total application points.
2. The top five candidates will be informed and must complete the next step of the Selection Process: Oral Interview
3. Judges will conduct an oral interview with the five semi-finalists. Three finalists will be selected based on total number of application and interview points.
4. The three finalists will be informed and must participate in a classroom observation by the panel of judges.
5. Finally, each finalists' total points will be compiled to determine the candidate with the most accumulative points from the application, the oral interview and the classroom observation.

Application	100 points
Observation	100 points
Interview	<u>100 points</u>
	<b>300 points x's 5 judges equals 1,500 possible points</b>

6. The Guam Teacher of the Year is the candidate with the highest composite score closest or equal to 1500 points.
7. The winner will be announced no later than **April 14, 2009**. Details for the official announcement to be provided at a later date.



## GUAM TEACHER OF THE YEAR RESPONSIBILITIES

The teacher selected as the 2010 Guam Teacher of the Year has the following duties and responsibilities:

1. Assume the title of 2010 Guam Teacher of the Year for SY 2009-2010
2. Compete in the 2010 National Teacher of the Year Program sponsored by the Chief Council of State School Officers and Scholastic, Inc. Upon the final selection of the Guam Teacher of the Year, the National Teacher of the Year Application must be submitted no later than November 9, 2009 and addressed to:

*National Teacher of the Year Program  
 Council of Chief State School Officers  
 One Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
 Suite 700  
 Washington, DC 20001-1431*

3. Represent Guam in the National Teacher of the Year activities which may include: the 2010 National Teacher of the Year Meeting, a White House visit, Space Camp and the
4. Represent Guam in the Pacific Educator’s Conference scheduled for July 15,16 and 17<sup>th</sup> on Guam.
5. Conduct workshops relative to successful classroom strategies
6. Remain on Guam, in the teaching profession within GPSS for at least two years after the selection
7. Participate as a committee member for the Guam Teacher Forum
8. Provide insight and information for improving Guam’s education system
9. Serve as a role model for the teaching profession

### TIME LINE

TOY Activity	Date
Guam TOY Application Deadline	5:00 p.m. March 202009
Judges’ Review of Applications five top Finalist	March 23, 24 & 25, 2009
Announcement of the three Guam TOY Finalist	March 27, 2009
Interview with Judges	March 31 – April 1, 2009
On-Site observation with Judges	April 2 & 3, 2009
Announcement of the Guam TOY	April 14, 2009



## 2010 GUAM TEACHER OF THE YEAR APPLICATION

### I. General Information/Signatures

Nominee Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip Code Telephone

Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_ - - Date of Birth \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Email Address(es) \_\_\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip Code Telephone

Number of Students in Nominee's: District \_\_\_\_\_ Building \_\_\_\_\_

Major Subject Area (if any) \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_

Total Years of Teaching Experience \_\_\_\_\_ Years in Present Position \_\_\_\_\_

**I hereby give my permission that any or all of the attached materials (other than home address, telephone, SS# and DOB) may be shared with persons interested in promoting the Guam Teacher of the Year Program. I also acknowledge that if selected as the 2010 National Teacher of the Year, I will be released from classroom responsibilities during the year of my recognition in order to fulfill the obligations inherent in the honor.**

Signature of Candidate \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**(Section I. continued - General Information/Signatures)**

**SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

City

State

Zip Code

Telephone

**I acknowledge that the nominee submits this application with my approval. If the nominee is selected as the 2010 National Teacher of the Year, he or she will be released from classroom responsibilities during the year of recognition.**

Signature of School Principal \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**II. Educational History and Professional Development Activities - (two double-spaced pages)**

- A. Beginning with most recent, list colleges and universities attended including postgraduate studies. Indicate degrees earned and dates of attendance.
- B. Beginning with most recent, list teaching employment history indicating time period, grade level and subject area.
- C. Beginning with most recent, list professional association memberships including information regarding offices held and other relevant activities.
- D. Beginning with most recent, list staff development leadership activity and leadership activity in the training of future teachers.
- E. Beginning with the most recent, list awards and other recognition of your teaching.

**(Section II. continued - Educational History and Professional Development Activities)**

**III. Professional Biography** - (two double-spaced pages)

- A. What were the factors that influenced you to become a teacher? Describe what you consider to be your greatest contributions and accomplishments in education.

**(Section III. continued - Professional Biography)**

**IV. Community Involvement** - (one double-spaced page)

- A. Describe your commitment to your community through service-oriented activities such as volunteer work, civic responsibilities and other group activities.

**V. Philosophy of Teaching - (two double-spaced pages)**

- A. Describe your personal feelings and beliefs about teaching, including your own ideas of what makes you an outstanding teacher. Describe the rewards you find in teaching.
- B. How are your beliefs about teaching demonstrated in your personal teaching style?

**(Section V. continued - Philosophy of Teaching)**

**VI. Education Issues and Trends - (two double-spaced pages)**

- A. What do you consider to be the major public education issues today?  
Address **one** in depth, outlining possible causes, effects and resolutions.

**(Section VI. continued - Education Issues and Trends)**

**VII. The Teaching Profession - (two double-spaced pages)**

- A. What do you do to strengthen and improve the teaching profession?
- B. What is and/or what should be the basis for accountability in the teaching profession?

**(Section VII. continued - The Teaching Profession)**

**VIII. National Teacher of the Year - (one double-spaced page)**

- A. As the 2010 National Teacher of the Year, you would serve as a spokesperson and representative for the entire teaching profession. What would be your message? What would you communicate to your profession and to the general public?

**IX. Letters of Support** - (limit of three letters, each a MAXIMUM of ONE PAGE)

Include **three** letters of support from any of the following: superintendent, principal, administrator, colleague, student/former student, parent, or civic leader.

**X. Publicity Photograph**

Include with the application package a photograph of the candidate, either hard copy or electronic, suitable for publicity purposes. One 5" x 7" head shot in color is preferred.