

KATE Outstanding Teaching Practices Award

Award Description

The purpose of this award is to recognize, promote, and reward outstanding teaching practices across all grade levels in the state of Kansas. Four awards will be given: one each for elementary (k-6), middle school (7-8), high school (9-12), and college teaching. Awards will be \$200, a plaque recognizing the recipient to be awarded at the annual state conference, and public recognition.

To be considered, the applicant must meet the following qualifications:

- Be a KATE Member (KATE Executive Board Members are not eligible).
- Submit a complete application form.
- Give KATE permission to publish the Outstanding Teaching Practice and supporting handouts in KATE publications.

Please note the following:

- Applications will be blind reviewed so they must be written without identifying specific teachers, schools or school districts.
- The KATE Executive Board Selection Committee will determine winners.
- Application deadline: May 1 postmark--applicants postmarked after May 1 will be considered with the next year's applications.
- Winners will be notified by the end of June.

Application address:

Andy Anderson,
English Department, Box 31,
Johnson County Community College,
Overland Park, KS 66210

Judging Criteria

The application for the Outstanding Teaching Practices Award calls for a thoughtful description of a specific practice that helps move students toward fulfilling specific goals and standards. **The applications will be blind reviewed so they must be written without identifying specific teachers, schools or school districts.** The identifying application form will be separated from the rest of the application to permit blind reviews.

KATE doesn't want the application process to be onerous, so word limits have been established for answering each topic on the application form. Please follow these limits. The review committee will be looking for the following:

1. Completeness (25%): Are all topics identified in the application form fully addressed?
2. Clarity (25%): Is the lesson clearly described and clearly related to identified goals and/or standards?
3. Thoughtful analysis (40%): Does the application demonstrate insight regarding the significance of the lesson to the unit; the relation of the lesson to established goals and standards; the strengths and weaknesses of the lesson; and the place of the lesson in the teacher's pedagogy?
4. Correctness (10%): Are the conventions of standard edited English followed in completing the application?

KATE Outstanding Teaching Practices Award Application Form

To submit your outstanding teaching practice for consideration, complete the application form and then respond to Parts I through VI, which call for a brief but thoughtful description of your practice. Your responses to the Parts I through V should be typed double spaced using a standard, size 12 font and 1 inch margins. Part VI is optional. If student handouts are used in presenting your lesson, attach them to the application. A list of the handouts being submitted with the application should introduce part VI.

REMEMBER TO ELIMINATE FROM ALL PARTS OF THE APPLICATION MATERIALS OBVIOUS REFERENCES THAT WOULD IDENTIFY THE TEACHER, THE SCHOOL, OR SCHOOL DISTRICT. (You will need to identify goals and standards—and these may be quoted or paraphrased—but do not name the school or district that has adopted these statements).

Personal Information

Name: _____ Date: _____

Home address: _____

Home Phone: _____ School Phone: _____

FAX: _____ E Mail: _____

District/School: _____

Teaching assignment/Level: _____

Name and address of local/area newspapers: _____

Recognition of Sources: To the best of your ability, give credit to sources important in the development of this teaching practice. Identify other teachers, journals, conference presentations, or any other sources that you are aware of having contributed to the teaching idea you are submitting. This is your chance to say thank you as well as avoiding any appearance of plagiarism.

Permission to Publish: While retaining ownership of this material, I grant the Kansas Association of Teachers of English permission to publish my Outstanding Teaching Practice along with the attached student handouts in any of the official Kansas Association of Teachers of English publications. To the best of my knowledge none of this material is subject to any copy write.

Applicant's Signature _____

Description of the Teaching Practice

Part I: Overview of the Unit (250 words)

Describe an effective unit you have developed.

1. Describe the unit and its major components.
2. Identify the goals the unit is designed to fulfill. Be sure to relate the unit to specific Kansas state or local district standards.
3. Explain how the unit helps students achieve the identified educational goals.

Part II: Overview of the Lesson (500 words)

Describe a specific lesson used to fulfill the unit goals identified in Part I.

1. Describe a lesson that is part of the Unit identified in Part I.
2. Identify the specific goals of the lesson.
3. Describe how the lesson fits into the overall unit.
4. Explain what the students do during and/or as a result of this lesson.
5. Explain how the specific lesson helps students fulfill the identified goals and or standards.

Part III (250 words)

Identify what you consider to be the unique qualities of the unit and the specific lesson. Reflect on strengths and weaknesses of the lesson. What advice or warning would you give another teacher attempting to make use of your lesson?

Part IV (250 words)

Discuss how the unit reflects your teaching philosophy and style.

Part V (250 words)

Explain why this is an award winning practice.

Part VI (optional)

List the student handouts and attach actual student handouts used in presenting the specific lesson.