



## VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND COUNSELING

### **The Villanova University Teacher of Courage and Conscience Award**

#### **Deadline:**

The deadline for nominations is March 24, 2017

#### **Purpose:**

At a time when many long-term educators feel the teaching profession is under attack by media pundits, politicians, and edu-preneurs, Villanova University Department of Education and Counseling seeks to recognize, celebrate, and thank those veteran educators who are not only staying in the profession, but also advocating for it. This award honors educators who are creatively envisioning and bravely enacting alternatives to the rote learning experiences that have become the standard fare in far too many classrooms across our region; educators who are teaching their students not just how to FOIL or differentiate similes from metaphors, but about the pressing issues of our time and the urgent need for social justice; and educators who are igniting students' curiosity, encouraging them to become engaged civic actors, and inspiring them to lead lives that matter. Recipients of the award are well-respected by their colleagues, beloved by their students, and recognized as teacher activists or agents of change in their local community. Through this award and the attendant ceremony, our Department strives not only to celebrate but also to connect these teacher leaders with one another.

#### **Qualifications**

Candidates must be K-12 public or private school teachers engaged in the following activities:

- \*work to improve access to high-quality education for those students who are currently least well-served;
- \*advocate for the education profession;
- \*encourage student curiosity and love of learning, use innovative teaching strategies, and engage students in meaningful problem-solving, knowledge-production, or artistic work;
- \*embody and put into practice the values of Villanova University: Veritas, Unitas, Caritas.

#### **Nomination Packets and Submission Guidelines**

Nomination packets must include the candidate's name, school, and contact information, as well as the nominator's contact information. A letter explaining the candidate's qualifications is required, and may be supplemented by additional material such as parent, student, or colleague testimonies, examples of student work, the candidate's resume, or lesson plans. Please send completed packets to Dr. Jerusha Conner [Jerusha.conner@villanova.edu](mailto:Jerusha.conner@villanova.edu) by March 24, 2017

#### **Timeline**

A committee including academics, educators, and administrators from surrounding schools will meet to evaluate submissions. Semi-finalists will be announced in early April. The three finalists



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will then be presented with the award and a token of our appreciation, at our department's annual Dinner for Cooperating Personnel on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Information on past winners can be found on the Villanova Department of Education and Counseling website: <http://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/artsci/education/news/2016-teacher-of-courage-and-conscience-award-.html>