

MEA Pride

The Association welcomes the public spotlight and views this awards program as an opportunity to focus on all MEA members whose dedication and commitment to educational excellence are clearly reflected in their work. These members represent the best resources public education has.

It is with intense pride that MEA recognizes exemplary service to Michigan's public schools and students from pre-K to higher education. In presenting these awards for human rights and excellence, MEA acknowledges contributions and achievements and will honor recipients every year throughout the year.

The mission of the MEA is to ensure that the education of our students and the working environments of our members are of the highest quality.

Award Process

To receive consideration, award nominations must be received by the MEA Awards Committee by the date indicated.

Award nominations must be accompanied by a completed nominating form and required documentation in order to be considered. Required documentation must show evidence of the nominee's accomplishments as specified in each award for which they are to be considered.

All nominees and nominating individuals or groups must be MEA members in good standing unless otherwise indicated in the criteria for the award. Nominating individuals or groups may submit nominations for more than one award. Each award must be accompanied by a separate nominating form and required documentation.

Nomination Submissions

To submit a nomination, go to mea.org/acawards and complete the PDF form.

Email to MEA Vice President Chandra Madafferi (cmadafferi@mea.org) and attach letters of recommendation, photos and any other related material.

Any questions, please contact the MEA Vice President Chandra Madafferi at 800-292-1934.

MEA Officers

Paula J. Herbart, President
Chandra Madafferi, Vice President
Brett R. Smith, Secretary-Treasurer
Michael Shoudy, Executive Director



Awards for Human Rights & Excellence

MEA

Michigan Education Association

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MEA

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Award nomination applications for the **Winter** awards are accepted October 1 to December 31 for the following year's **Winter Conference** in February.

❄️ Awarded every **even** year, in winter:

David McMahon Award

This award recognizes individuals or groups outside the MEA which distinguish themselves by courageously accepting the challenge of moral and ethical leadership in the field of human and civil rights.

Gender Equity Award

The nominee should have demonstrated commitment to the development of a project, program or study that promotes the value and talents of women. The work must contribute to gender equity in education and must be adaptable to the classroom.

❄️ Awarded every **odd** year, in winter:

Maurine Wyatt Feminist Award

This award honors educators, female and male, who exhibit a high degree of commitment in their professional and personal lives to feminism and to human and civil rights. The award honors Maurine Wyatt who approached each task with quiet assertiveness. Her toughness and clear thinking made her a formidable advocate.

Migrant Education Award

This award honors individuals committed to migrant education, especially in assuring equal educational opportunities for migrant students.



Award nomination applications for the **Spring** awards are accepted February 1 to April 1 for the **MEA Representative Assembly** in April/May.

🌸 Awarded at least every **two** years, in spring:

Connie Jackson Human Rights Award

This award recognizes MEA leaders who have championed the cause of ethnic minority members of the profession and demonstrated a commitment to the involvement of ethnic members of the MEA. Subsequent to her election as a Michigan NEA Director, Connie Jackson earned the respect of MEA leadership and was known as the “conscience” of the MEA in matters affecting ethnic minority members of the Association.

🌸 Awarded every spring, **if funds are available**:

Paul Blewett Friend of Education Award

This monetary award honors individuals who in the previous year did the most to improve the lives of teachers, to further the goals of the MEA or to further the cause of public education. Anyone, either inside or outside of the Association, is eligible to receive the award, as long as they are from Michigan.



Award nomination applications for the **Summer** awards are accepted May 1 to July 1 for the **Summer Conference** in July/August.

☀️ Awarded every **even** year, in summer:

Educational Excellence Award

This award honors individuals committed to educational excellence and concern for improvement of student-focused education. The nominee should have demonstrated commitment to educational excellence and a concern for the improvement of student-focused education.

Elizabeth Siddall Human Rights Award

This award recognizes Michigan teachers who have developed and implemented programs that, through creative involvement and sustained commitment, foster international awareness among educators and students.

As a classroom teacher, Elizabeth Siddall’s professional and personal commitment stand as an inspiration to students and colleagues. She dedicated her energies to the development of greater understanding between persons of all races, cultures, creeds and nations. Her life represented a commitment to international understanding.

Multicultural Education Award

This award honors individuals or programs committed to multicultural instruction and the art of teaching. Programs nominated may be developed by classroom teachers, instructional teams, support professionals, curriculum councils, school districts and/or higher education institutions.

☀️ Awarded every **odd** year, in summer:

Anne Sullivan Education and Support of Person with Disabilities Award

This award honors individuals who have exhibited a high degree of commitment to his/her professional and personal life to the education and support of persons with disabilities and the promotion of their human and civil rights as exemplified by the spirit of MEA member Ann Sullivan.

Herman W. Coleman Award

This award recognized a person, program, or special event which has served to improve the quality of human relationships. Special consideration is given to those persons/ programs which address the betterment of human relationships with the Association.

Herman W. Coleman, MEA Executive Director for seven years, said that the professional opportunities he experienced were a direct result of personal sacrifices made by other minorities. As they paved a way for him, he chose to pave the way for other minorities and women.

Irma Ramos Bilingual Education Award

The award honors individuals who have made significant contributions to bilingual education in the spirit of MEA member Irma Ramos who demonstrated a commitment to and pride in bilingualism and multiculturalism.

