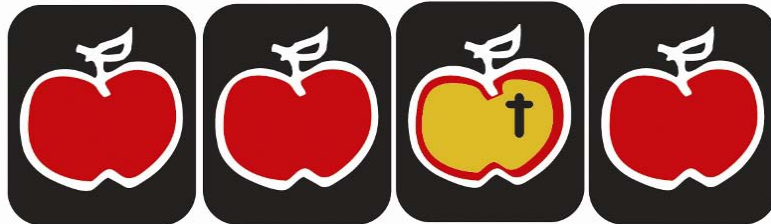


The Diocese of Toledo
GOLDEN APPLE AWARD
2012



Catholic Schools Office



The Golden Apple Award **INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE**

Through the generosity and kindness of the Jack and Rhodora Donahue Family Foundation of Pittsburgh Pennsylvania, the *Golden Apple Award* has been established to honor outstanding individuals who devote their lives to teaching in Catholic schools. This awards program has been expanded from the Diocese of Pittsburgh to include the Diocese of Toledo. The 2011-2012 school year marks the seventh consecutive year that this prestigious award has been presented in the Diocese of Toledo.

The Diocese of Toledo recognizes and deeply appreciates teachers who base their ministry on the following "Credo":

As Catholic School Educators,

we believe our Catholic School is not only a school,
but a community of Faith;

we believe those entrusted to us are not only students,
but children of God;

we believe we are not only educators,
but Ministers of the Gospel;

we believe the values we teach are not only character development,
but a call to Holiness;

we believe our courses of study are not only academic pursuits,
but a search for Truth;

we believe the purpose of education is not only for personal gain
and the development of society,
but for the Transformation of the world.

In light of the valuable contribution made by Catholic school teachers to the Church, and society in general, the Diocese of Toledo is able to demonstrate its appreciation through the *Golden Apple Award* program.

THE 2012 AWARD PROCESS

I. THE AWARD

The *Golden Apple Award* will be given to seven (7) elementary teachers and two (2) secondary teachers each year. The Award will consist of the following:

- Cash award of \$ 5,000.00
- Certificate of Achievement
- Golden Apple with a 24 carat gold cross
- Golden Apple lapel pin
- Individual photo with the Bishop
- Group photo with other awardees and the Bishop
- Video of the Golden Apple Award Dinner

These will all be presented at the ceremony during the awards banquet on May 1, 2012, at The Toledo Club in Toledo.

II. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- The candidate must be a practicing Catholic, full time teacher and have completed a minimum of three full years in the elementary or secondary school at which they are **currently** employed. These schools must be listed in the Official Directory for Catholic Schools.
- A teacher, parent or student must nominate the applicant in an elementary school. (If student nominates the teacher, it must be done with a parent)
- A teacher, parent or student must nominate the applicant in a high school.
- The applicant must have a valid license or certification, both state and diocesan for the position they currently hold. Copies of state license or certification, as well as updated catechetical certification (for Religion teachers), are to be included with the nomination material.

III. THE NOMINATING PROCESS

- A. The nominator will be a teacher or parent and student
- B. All nominations will be sent to the principal by.
- C. Before the nomination is approved the principal will verify the eligibility requirements listed in Section II.
- D. Once eligibility is verified, the nominee will be asked to fill out a six page application and return it to the principal by February 3, 2012.
- E. There will be a local selection committee at the elementary school consisting of the pastor or president of the school, the principal and any other appropriate school stakeholders. In the secondary schools, the local selection committee will usually consist of the principal, president or pastor/chaplain, dean of students/or assistant principal of academics.
- F. The selection process at the local level will take into consideration the following:
 - Verification of eligibility
 - Application and applicant's essay
 - Professional development
 - Nominator's letter of recommendation
 - Commitment to students and school
 - Leadership qualities
 - Service to Church and community
 - Teaching skills
 - Role model as a Catholic educator
- G. Each school will select one candidate to forward to the diocese for consideration for a *Golden Apple Award*.
- H. Information for the school's one candidate should be sent to CSO c/o Mary Chalmers. The packet must include the following:
 1. Application form and essay completed by the nominated teacher
 2. Nomination Form and nominator's letter
 3. Pastor or President's letter of support
 4. Principal's letter of support
 5. Copy of Ohio license or certification
 6. Catechetical Certificate (if a religion teacher)

Note that the Pastor or President and the Principal must write a letter of recommendation for the school's candidate. Those letters should also be included in the packet as shown above. This packet must be received at the Catholic Schools Office by March 12, 2012.

IV. THE DIOCESAN SELECTION COMMITTEE

A. The diocesan selection committee will consist of :

- The Superintendent of Schools
- The Assistant Superintendent
- The Diocesan Director of Catechesis & Evangelization
- Two representatives from a Catholic college/university
- A representative from the Bishop's Education Council

B. The diocesan selection committee will:

- Review all applications and supporting materials
- Choose seven winners from the elementary schools and two winners from the secondary schools.
- Use the following system for evaluation:

CATEGORY	POSSIBLE POINTS
Nominee's essay	15
Nominator's letter	15
Pastor/Principal letter(rate them combined look for leadership qualities)	15
Professional development (use application form pg 3&4)	25
Service to church, school & community (use pg 5)	25
Application forms complete and correct submission	5
TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS	100

V. NOTIFICATION

The Superintendent for Catholic Schools will review and approve the Committee's selections. Each nominee will be notified by a letter. Each winner will receive a letter and phone call from the Superintendent.

VI. PUBLICITY

The Diocesan Office of Communications will assist the Catholic Youth and School Services office in producing materials for public relations. This will include:

CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

- Article announcing the awards
- Coverage of the award ceremony
- Full special sheet with photos/biographies

OTHER MEDIA OUTLETS

- News releases announcing the awardees
- Coverage of the award ceremony

Golden Apple Award
Timeline
2012

- January 4, 2012** Information packets (including nomination and application forms) are made available on the CSO web site: www.catholicschoolsoffice.org
- February 3, 2012** Nomination forms due to principals. Nominated teachers are notified and given application forms.
- March 5, 2012** Teacher application forms due to principals in each school. Local selection process begins.
- March 12, 2012** Each school submits its one candidate to Mary Chalmers at Catholic Schools Office. The following **must** be included:
- Application form and essay completed by the nominated teacher
 - Nomination Form and nominator's letter
 - Pastor or President's letter of support
 - Principal's letter of support
 - Copy of Ohio license or certification
 - Copy of Catechetical Certificate (if a religion teacher)
- April, 2012** Winners notified and announcements made in the Catholic Chronicle and local media.
- May 1, 2012** Golden Apple Awards Banquet at the Toledo Club in Toledo.