

NEWS RELEASE

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**NORTH CENTRAL
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION**

The North Central Education Foundation was thrilled to increase the number of teacher classroom grants that were awarded at the 2017 Teacher Classroom Grant Award reception held at Confluence Technology Center in Wenatchee. During this eighth year of teacher grant awards, 93 teachers from four counties were presented with grant awards in the categories of literacy, STEM, STEAM, Music/Fine Arts, College Preparation and Chelan-Douglas Land Trust Foothills.

Larry MacGuffie, North Central ESD Board Vice-Chair, served as MC for the award presentation and awards were presented by President Ray Allen, along with Board members Bill Baldwin, Joe St. Jean, P.J. DeBenedetti, and Rufus Woods. This year, for the first time, Okanogan County teachers were honored at a remote location via Zoom videoconference, hosted by Foundation Board member Kerrie Combs. Guest speaker, Regional Teacher of the Year Jon Magnus, shared inspirational words of hope with the attendees. Teacher Classroom Grant sponsors Kyla Allen from North Cascades Bank; Erika Orsulak from the Community Foundation of NCW; and Rufus Woods from the *Wenatchee World* shared their enthusiasm for supporting the Teacher Classroom Grants.

The Foundation is working to make a difference in the future of the children in the North Central ESD region by providing teachers with opportunities to enrich their classroom environments. This is due to the generosity of the North Cascades Bank, Woods Family Music & Arts Fund, Olive Garden/Darden Restaurants, Community Foundation of NCW, Chelan-Douglas Land Trust, LASER Science/Pacific Science Center, Clear Risk Solutions, PlanMember Services, and generous board members, ESD staff and community members who also donated to the fund.

North Central ESD Superintendent Michelle Price commented, "It has been inspirational to see the Foundation grow, in just eight short years, from giving out eight teacher grants in our region to giving out 93 grants, including 15 grants adopted by businesses or individuals. We are fortunate to have generous new corporate sponsors with a heart for education and dedicated Foundation Board members who are passionate about the work of the Foundation."

Teachers receiving the 2017 North Central Education Foundation Teacher Classroom Grants include:

Adopted/Funded

Linda Cashman, Palisades
Jana Ewing, Bridgeport
Kathy Kemp, Lake Chelan
Taylor Sweigard, Mountain Sprouts, Cascade
Scarlet Wilson, Soap Lake
Karen Haase, Cascade
Tina Nicpan-Brown, Wenatchee
Caitlin Walters, Eastmont

Joe Ells, Wenatchee
Marie Goulet, Mansfield
Sue Poppe, Brewster
Caitlin Walters, Eastmont
Joan Campbell, Cashmere
Tawnya Halliday, Quincy
Jody Terris, Tonasket

Chelan-Douglas Land Trust Foothills

Nika Childers, Wenatchee
Tina Nicpan-Brown, Wenatchee
Graham Stansberry, Wenatchee
Renee Wilkens, Wenatchee

Robert Garretson, Wenatchee
Jodee Smith, Wenatchee
Roxana Vanatta, Wenatchee
Deanna Porter, Eastmont

College Preparation (funded by Olive Garden/Darden Restaurants)

Betty Palmer, Wenatchee Valley Tech Center
Andrea Brixey, Cascade

Joyce Block, Wenatchee

Literacy

Sheena Moore, Moses Lake
Heidi Hartnell, Cashmere
Kathy Addlemar, Eastmont
Shamra Steffler, Grand Coulee Dam
Lisa Guzman, Nespelam
Jeff Williams, Wenatchee
Denise Hack, Omak

Joan Campbell, Cashmere
Ann Snyder, Cashmere
Misty Krohn, Grand Coulee Dam
Jessica Tufts, Grand Coulee Dam
Toby Johnson, Wenatchee
Rebecca Swanson/Linda Hightower, Cashmere

Music/Fine Arts (funded by Woods House/Family Fund)

Angie McGinnis, Eastmont Elementary Schools
Matthew Smeller, Eastmont
Lori Pruss, Quincy
Gail Morris, Tonasket
Rachael Simmons, Wenatchee
Audrey White, Moses Lake
Tyler Sant, Tonasket
Jodee Smith, Wenatchee
Matilde Vivanco, Wenatchee

Lisa Krause, Sterling Middle School
Linda Rise, Nespelam
Ciara Shuttleworth, Soap Lake
Tina Nicpan-Brown, Wenatchee
Trevor Sill, Quincy
Anna Rawson, Okanogan
Adele Caemmerer, Wenatchee
Heidi Flake, Cascade

Other

Cynthia Swan, Moses Lake
Kayla Helleson, Manson

Kelsie Fowkes, Moses Lake

STEM/STEAM

Becky Buckingham, Bridgeport
Linda Hightower/Rebecca Swanson, Cashmere
Don Carroll, Eastmont
Leslie Pugh, Quincy
Jennifer Polley, Lake Chelan
Jessica Bowman, Mansfield
Carina Velazquez-Cruz, Moses Lake
Pam Haley, Pateros
Lizabeth Fowler, Quincy
Michael Werner, Quincy
Matthew Brewer, Soap Lake
Katelynn Goddard, Warden
Kris Daratha, Waterville
Terry Gillespie, Wenatchee
Caroline Lake, Wenatchee
Lynette Smith, Wenatchee
Ashley-Jo Armstrong, Eastmont
Jana Sutton, Wenatchee
Matthew Kimmel, Eastmont

Taylor Sweigard, Mountain Sprouts, Cascade
Caitlin Walters, Eastmont
Dana Cada, Entiat
Sharon Scellick, Ephrata
Evan Reister, Lake Chelan
Erik Helleson, Manson
Brenda Welch, Moses Lake
Leticia Baughman, Quincy
Debbie Koehnen, Quincy
Sara Hausken, Quincy
Rachel Baldwin, Warden
Marisa Leavitt, Warden
Jake Bullis, Wenatchee
Aaron Hansen, Wenatchee
Michael Lasater, Wenatchee
Tracy Walsh, Wenatchee
Mark Wavra, Eastmont
Karen Haase, Cascade