



## **2023 Toyota Family Teacher of the Year**

Since 1997, the National Center for Families Learning (NCFL) and Toyota have partnered to recognize school- and community-based educators across the nation who best engage families in family engagement, family literacy, and/or family leadership programming. The Toyota Family Teacher of the Year award celebrates educators across the nation who engage children and parents with a focus on building effective family–school partnerships that support student achievement and school improvement. The first-place winner receives \$20,000 and the runner-up receives \$5,000 to be used for family literacy, family engagement, or family leadership projects.

Thank you for taking the time to nominate an exceptional family educator for the 2023 Toyota Family Teacher of the Year Award. Anyone with strong knowledge about the nominee’s work is eligible to complete the nomination form. Programs may nominate up to two family educators using separate nomination forms. Self-nominations will be disqualified. Incomplete nominations or late submissions will not be accepted.

Applications will be evaluated using the following award selection criteria. This award celebrates educators who:

- Demonstrate a record of success engaging families in educational settings. Examples of successful efforts include:
  - creating opportunities for families, schools, and communities to build their capacity for home-to-school partnerships;
  - providing better support for parents addressing their children’s academic needs;
  - building effective family–school partnerships that support student achievement and school improvement;
  - targeting the needs voiced by families—including their cultural and linguistic needs—and those of the communities in which they live;
  - using evidence-based practices that show promise;
  - connecting families to their children’s school or community-based education programs;
  - focusing on children’s academics, oral language or vocabulary development, and/or reading and literacy development;
  - connecting families to a greater community-wide network;
  - advocating for parent inclusion, input, and leadership.
- Have a passion and persistence for supporting the engagement of parenting adults.
- Serve parents, caregivers, and children using a strong multi-generational approach to help them learn together in innovative ways.
- Implement innovative ideas for expanding their program to benefit families and/or to engage more families.
- Serve communities and families with high literacy and socioeconomic needs.

The winner and runner-up must meet the following criteria and accept the following conditions:

- Winning educators must work for a school- or community-based program that engages families in the educational process. The location of the program must be in the United States of America.
- Each family educator must be nominated by someone who knows the nominee's work well and has a thorough knowledge of the nominee's strengths, approaches, and collective positive impact on behalf of children and families.
- Winning educators will be asked to participate in NCFL's extensive outreach activities to promote their practices and programs, including:
  - Participation in the 2023 Families Learning Conference in Omaha, Nebraska from October 23-25 (travel & lodging expenses will be covered by NCFL).
  - Participation in a Teacher of the Year webinar in the spring of 2024.
- Award funds must be expended on the designated family engagement project during the 2024 calendar year.
- Award winners will commit to sharing project and family stories with NCFL on an ongoing basis, to be used for communications throughout the year—including NCFL social media platforms.
- Share with NCFL any intellectual property (including lesson plans, handbooks, posters, etc., where applicable) created to support grant activities.
- Share an end-of-year report with NCFL outlining the project.

Nominators can preview a PDF of the application in [English](#) or [Spanish](#)\*. **Official nominations must be submitted via the [online form](#) in English or Spanish**\*. Incomplete entries can be saved and returned to at another time. All required sections must be complete before submitting nominations.

Please submit nominations no later than **11:59 p.m. PDT on Thursday, May 18, 2023**. For assistance or questions, please contact Kirsten Lang at [KLang@familieslearning.org](mailto:KLang@familieslearning.org).

\*This application can be translated into additional languages by emailing Kirsten Lang at [KLang@FamiliesLearning.org](mailto:KLang@FamiliesLearning.org). Translation requests will be completed within 3-4 business days.

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## Nominator's Information

Nominator's first name \*

Nominator's last name \*

Relationship to nominee \*

Nominator's email address \*

Nominator's alternative email address

Nominator's primary phone number \*

Nominator's alternative phone number

## Nominee's Information

Nominee's first name \*

Nominee's last name \*

Nominee's title \*

Nominee's email address \*

Nominee's alternative email address

Nominee's primary phone number \*

Nominee's number of years engaging families  
as a school or community educator \*

## Nominee's Organization Information

Please enter information for the organization or school that will host the funded program.

Organization or school name to receive funding \*

Street address \*

Street address 2

City \*

State \*

Zip \*

Ages/grade levels served \*

## Nomination Questionnaire

Please answer the following questions to give a better understanding of your nominee and the work they have done with families in the community/school they serve. Please support your answers with evidence (i.e., anecdotes, observations, results).

\*Each question has a limit of 1000 characters.

1. How does the nominee support parenting adults and children through innovative strategies and the use of a strong multigenerational approach?

2. Describe how the nominee demonstrates a record of success in engaging families.

3. How does the nominee implement innovative ideas for expanding their program to benefit families and/or to engage more families?

4. Describe the communities and families the nominee supports in terms of literacy rates and socioeconomic status.

Note: If you do not have statistics for reference, an anecdotal description of the type of funding available to the school/community can be provided.

5. Give examples of how the nominee successfully communicates best practices and partners with other organizations.

6. How does the nominee demonstrate a passion and persistence for supporting the engagement of parenting adults?

7. Why does your nominee deserve to be the 2023 Toyota Family Teacher of the Year?

8. Use the space below to share additional information and examples about the nominee and their work.

Add additional files, up to three, if needed. Photos and other forms of media are supported.

If a media file exceeds 50MB in size, please provide a link to the media instead, such as YouTube, Vimeo, Prezi, etc., here.

**We would like to learn more about the other types of programming offered at the site/organization where the nominee engages with learners.**

Does the nominee's site/organization offer: (check all that apply)

- Four-component family literacy programming (adult education, early childhood education, parent education, and interactive parent-child activities)
- Family leadership programming (designed to support parenting adults and caregivers with knowledge and skills by providing tools and learning opportunities to become engaged advocates for themselves, their children, their families, and communities)

## **Application Confirmation and Nominee Requirements**

If selected as a finalist, the nominee will be required to interview virtually with the NCFL Teacher of the Year selection committee. During this meeting, nominees will review the following requirements, to be fulfilled by the winner:

- Implement and sustain the proposed project for the 2024 calendar year;
- Share the activities and story of the funded project with NCFL, particularly through requested communications;
- Share with NCFL any intellectual property (including lesson plans, handbooks, posters, etc., where applicable) created to support grant activities;
- Participate in NCFL's extensive outreach activities to promote family engagement practices and programs, including:
  - Participation in the 2023 Families Learning Conference that will be held in Omaha, Nebraska from Oct. 23-25.
  - Participation in a Teacher of the Year webinar in the spring of 2024.

Confirm submission with your initials \*

Thank you for taking the time to nominate an outstanding family educator for the 2023 Toyota Family Teacher of the Year Award! This application has been submitted successfully. If the nominee is selected as a finalist, we will contact you by July 31.