

TEACHER AWARD 2010-2011

GENERAL: It is a fact that there is a nationwide shortage of teachers. Kansas is no exception. There are critical shortages of elementary school teachers and teachers specializing in math and science at all levels. The Veterans of Foreign Wars National Citizenship Education Teacher Award has never been more important than it is now. Good, patriotic teachers need our support and recognition. Please consider submitting at least one (1) nomination of an outstanding teacher from each Post in the Department of Kansas.

AWARDS: The Veterans of Foreign Wars initiated the National Citizenship Education Teach award in 1999 to recognize classroom teachers for promoting citizenship education with their students. Each national award teacher and his/her school will receive \$1,000, the Past Commander-in-Chief John Smart Award and a recognition plaque. The program brochure can be ordered from VFW Emblem and Supply.

The Department of Kansas will award a recognition plaque to the best nominee from each of the three (3) grade categories, K-5, 6-8 and 9-12. Presentation of the award will be coordinated with the winning teacher's principal. The total Department program budget will be \$125.00.

DEADLINES: Post: The deadline for teacher nominations to be submitted to the Post Teacher Award Chair is November 1st. Posts may select one (1) entry for each of the three (3) grade categories K-5, 6-8, and 9-12 for submission to District. Post judging must be completed by November 15th utilizing the Teacher Award Judges Score Sheet.

District: The deadline for teacher nominations to be submitted to the District Teacher Award Chair is on or before November 15th. Each nomination must be submitted with the enclosed Post Teacher Entry Form and VFW Teacher Nomination Form. Districts may select one (1) entry for each of the three (3) grade categories K-5, 6-8 and 9-12 for submission to Department. District judging must be completed by December 15th utilizing the Teacher Award Judges Score Sheet.

Department: The deadline for teacher nominations to be submitted to the Department Teacher Award Chair is on or before December 15th. Each nomination must be submitted with the Post Teach Entry Form District section completed. The Department will select one (1) entry for each of the three (3) grade categories K-5, 6-8 and 9-12 for submission to Department. Department judging must be completed by January 10th utilizing the Teacher Award Judges Score Sheet.

National: The deadline for teacher nominations to be submitted to the National Headquarters is on or before January 15th. Each nomination will be submitted with the Post Teacher Entry Form Department section completed.

TAKE A VET TO SCHOOL DAY: The History Channel has developed a **Take a Vet to School Day** campaign to link veterans of all ages with young people in our schools and communities. **R. Lee Ermey**, a veteran and host of **Mail Call**, serves as the spoke person for this campaign. Please consider supporting this campaign at the Post level by coordinating a **Take a Vet to School Day** in your community. This would be a great way to connect with school superintendents, principals and teachers and build the kind of relationship we need for our VFW Teacher Award Program.

If you need help with your Post Teacher Award Program or Take a Vet to School Day, please contact: Ray Calore, State Teacher Award Chairman, 8605 W 57th St, Merriam, KS 66202, (913) 362-2270.