



**SENIOR DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION – P-16**  
Office of Elementary, Middle, Secondary and Continuing Education  
Office of Higher Education

TO: District Superintendents of Schools  
Deans and Directors of Teacher Education Programs  
New York State United Teachers  
Members of the Board of Regents  
NYS School District Superintendents  
NYC Regional Superintendents  
National Education Association of NY  
Association for School Curriculum & Development  
NYC Teachers Association  
NYS School Boards Association  
NYS School Administrators Association  
NYC Teachers Association  
NYS Parent/Teacher Association  
School Principals  
United Federation of Teachers  
Other Partners

FROM:   
Johanna Duncan-Poitier

SUBJECT: 2010 Teacher of the Year Award

DATE: January 16, 2009

I am pleased to announce that the application for the 2010 New York State Teacher of the Year Award is now available online at: <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/kiap/TEACHING/toty/totyindex.htm>

The purpose of the Teacher of the Year program is to recognize and celebrate outstanding teachers throughout New York State. It is run in conjunction with the National Teacher of the Year program. To be eligible, a teacher must be appropriately credentialed within his or her current teaching area, working directly with students (pre-kindergarten through grade twelve) in a State-approved public, private or charter school and have a minimum of five years teaching experience.

A teacher may be initially recommended for nomination by any person within the school or community including parents, students, business leaders, school administrators or colleagues. The formal nomination should involve a collaborative decision-making process indicating the support of all the groups concerned with the quality of teaching within a school. A complete portfolio including letters of support is submitted for each nominee. Support from the school community may include several days of release time to fulfill the obligations of the Teacher of the Year.

We look forward to receiving many applications from our statewide teachers for this important teacher recognition initiative. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Kathleen Clarity, Teacher of the Year Coordinator, at (518) 486-6042 or via e-mail at: [tdpr@mail.nysed.gov](mailto:tdpr@mail.nysed.gov). Thank you.