

SHAPE Washington

DANCE EDUCATION TEACHER OF THE YEAR

- I. **PURPOSE:** To recognize and honor dance educators who have shown exemplary leadership in developing and administering programs of exceptional quality.
- II. **CRITERIA:**
- A. Candidate's major responsibility is teaching dance education at the elementary, middle, or high school levels.
 - B. Candidate must have a minimum of five years teaching experience.
 - C. Candidate should meet the following qualifications:
 - 1. Serves as a professional role model.
 - 2. Utilizes best practices to create a positive learning environment for all students.
 - 3. Exhibits commitment through involvement in professional organizations and advocacy.
 - 4. Maintain professional certification to teach dance and provide evidence of on-going professional development within the previous 5 years.
 - D. Candidate is a current member of SHAPE Washington.
 - E. Candidate must be a member of SHAPE America to be considered for Northwest District Dance Education Teacher of the Year.
 - F. To ensure qualifications to move on to Northwest District and Nationals go to:
<http://www.shapeamerica.org/recognition/awards/toy.cfm>

III. **AWARD CRITERIA:**

Below is the eight award criterion. Please outline your qualifications for each criteria, write no more than one page of text for each. The applicant should outline qualifications relevant to the criteria; consideration is based on your responses for the criteria.

The applicant must be a teacher who:

- 1. Teaches creatively and utilizes various methodologies.
- 2. Presents a balanced and sequential curriculum based on the development, social and psychological needs of the students.
- 3. Emphasizes the significance of dance as an integral cultural component that enables students to understand their own cultural heritage as well as that of others.
- 4. Promotes and understanding of dance as a creative art through the discussion of aesthetics of student's own works and/or the works of others.
- 5. Encourages an appreciation of dance as a performing art through viewing live and/or recorded works by community and professional dance companies.
- 6. Provides opportunities for students to share their creative work with appropriate audiences.
- 7. Serves as a positive role model for students both in dance technique and life skills.
- 8. Shows professional commitment through membership and active participation in local, state, regional, and/or national dance organizations.