

The Gifted Association of Missouri Awards & Scholarships 2011

Through awards and scholarships, the Gifted Association of Missouri celebrates the efforts of many educators, parents, and friends as they continue expanding the promise of gifted education. Colleagues may nominate individuals for awards and submit letters of support to the Scholarship and Award Committee. This committee makes their recommendation to the GAM Board of Directors. Award recipients are honored in October at the annual Missouri Conference on Gifted Education. GAM award and scholarship recipients must be GAM members and attend the GAM Fall Conference on Gifted Education. Applications and nominations for these awards and scholarships should be submitted to the GAM Executive Secretary on or before September 1.

Friend of Gifted Award

GAM invites nominations of individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of gifted education in Missouri. An individual who is eligible to be a recipient of this award will belong to one of the following categories: legislator or other elected official, administrator, counselor, regular classroom teacher, media person, business person or mentor. To nominate, please submit the following information:

- Name, address, and telephone number (home and work) of nominee
- Name, address, and telephone number (home and work) of person making the nomination
- A letter from the person making the nomination stating why the individual is being recommended for the award
- At least two additional letters of support (with names and addresses) must accompany each nomination
- *Letters should site specific examples of nominee's contributions to gifted education*

Outstanding Educator of Gifted Award

GAM invites nominations of those educators who have made outstanding contributions to the field of gifted education in Missouri. Eligible nominees will belong to one of the following categories: teacher of gifted, coordinator of gifted programming, or college professor directly involved with either gifted students or teachers of gifted. To nominate, please submit the following information:

- Name, address, and telephone number (home and work) of nominee
- Name, address, and telephone number (home and work) of person making the nomination
- A letter from the person making the nomination stating why the individual is being recommended for the award
- At least two additional letters of support (with names and addresses) must accompany each nomination
- *Letters should site specific examples of nominee's contributions to gifted education*

Parent of Gifted Award

GAM invites nominations of those parents who have made outstanding contributions to the field of gifted education in Missouri. Eligible nominees will belong to one of the following categories: parent, step-parent, or guardian of a gifted child in the state of Missouri. To nominate, please submit the following information:

- Name, address, and telephone number (home and work) of nominee
- Name, address, and telephone number (home and work) of person making the nomination
- A letter from the person making the nomination stating why the individual is being recommended for the award
- At least two additional letters of support (with names and addresses) must accompany each nomination
- *Letters should site specific examples of nominee's contributions to gifted education*

Memorial Scholarships

GAM presents two \$250 scholarships at the Gifted Association of Missouri Conference in the memory of the organization's early leaders, Dede Smith, Delma Johnson, and Norine Kerber. Smith and Johnson helped found GAM in 1981, and Kerber, soon joined the leadership group. The tireless work of these leaders is memorialized in the cash scholarships presented in their names. The Dede Smith Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually. The Delma Johnson Memorial Scholarship and the Norine Kerber Memorial Scholarship are presented in alternate years.

New Teacher Scholarship

In 1999, GAM created the New Teacher Scholarship to promote the certification of teachers in the field of gifted education. In 2007, the award was renamed the Bob Roach Scholarship for New Teachers in honor of the continuous commitment of gifted educator, Bob Roach. The gifted community lost this life-long educator and friend in the spring of 2010. The \$250 scholarship is awarded annually at the Gifted Association of Missouri Conference.

The Mercedes “Dede” Smith Memorial Scholarship

The Dede Smith Memorial Scholarship is used to recognize teachers for their contributions on behalf of gifted children. Dede, one of GAM’s founders, served as president and editor for several years. The Missouri Scholars Academy came into being under her insightful guidance. She initiated and served as Director of Drury’s Center for Gifted Education until her death, December 15, 1991. The Dede Smith Scholarship is awarded by nomination. To nominate, please submit the following information:

- Name, address, and telephone number (home and work) of nominee
- Name, address, and telephone number (home and work) of person making the nomination
- A one page biography of the nominee
- A letter from the person making the nomination stating why the individual is being recommended for the scholarship

The Norine Kerber & Delma Johnson Memorial Scholarships

The Norine Kerber & Delma Johnson Memorial Scholarships are given in alternating years. These scholarships are used to recognize teachers for their contributions on behalf of gifted children. To nominate an individual or to apply yourself, please submit the following information:

- Name, address, telephone number (home and work)
- One page biography of the nominee or applicant
- A letter stating why you are applying or nominating, and why the scholarship should be awarded to you or the individual who is being recommended for the scholarship

The Bob Roach Scholarship for New Teachers

Applicants must have completed at least two classes towards certification in gifted education. Teachers in the first or second year of teaching gifted are eligible to apply. They must be in the process of gifted certification at the time of application. To apply:

- Name, address, telephone number (home and work)
- One page biography
- One page letter explaining why you should be chosen
- Letter of reference from a supervisor, parent, or university professor

**All applications and nominations should be submitted on or before September 1
Gifted Association of Missouri
Executive Secretary – Awards & Scholarships
P.O. Box 3252, Springfield, MO 65808**

Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Award

The Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Award is awarded to one student in each state. Recipients are given a \$500.00 U.S. savings bond along with a Certificate of Excellence by the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC). Students selected for the award are between grades 3 and 6 and have distinguished themselves in academic achievement, leadership, visual or performing arts. Please see our website for additional information.

**Nominations for the Missouri NGDS Award must be postmarked by May 1
Mail application and parental release form to:
Gifted Association of Missouri
Executive Secretary - Nicholas Green Award
P.O. Box 3252
Springfield, MO 65808**