Community invited to honor Oshkosh educators at Celebrate Education

OSHKOSH, WI — More than $49,000 in grants will be awarded during Celebrate Education, an evening that recognizes and honor educators, administrators and volunteers who enrich the lives of students in our community.

The event will be held from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Monday, March 21, at the Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 N. Main St. The presentation will begin at 5 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Please call the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation at 920-426-3993 to reserve a seat.

Thirty-three educators from public and private schools will be recognized with classroom and professional development grants, along with other leaders and volunteers who will be recognized for their innovative contributions to education and two schools that will be presented with technology grants. Educators and schools submitted more than $129,038 in grant proposals to the Foundation.

The event is sponsored by the Foundation, Oshkosh Area School District, Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce, Mid-Morning Kiwanis Club of Oshkosh, Wisconsin Public Service Foundation, UWO College of Education and Human Services and CVS Pharmacy.

The following grants and awards will be presented:

**Spirit of Education Award**
The Mid-Morning Kiwanis Club of Oshkosh will receive the Oshkosh Area School District’s Spirit of Education Award. The honor is presented to an individual, group or business that provides exceptional service to the school and community, expresses a passion for learning, inspires others and serves as a role model for school and community partnerships.

**Dr. Stanley Spanbauer Education and Leadership Award**
The Oshkosh Area Community Foundation will be presented with the Dr. Stanley Spanbauer Education and Leadership Award from Lourdes Academy of Oshkosh. The award recognizes an individual or group that has demonstrated a long-term commitment to Lourdes Academy and its mission.

**Educational Leadership Award**
Valley VNA Senior Services will receive the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce Educational Leadership Award. The honor is presented to an individual or business demonstrating a long-term commitment to education.

**Rudoy Awards for Teaching Excellence**
Each year, the Edward and Belle Rudoy Fund selects an educator from each middle school or high school who were nominated by their principal to receive a grant for classroom enhancement or professional development. The 2016 awards focus on high school teachers. The Rudoy Awards for Teaching Excellence, established in 1996, aim to support teachers in their efforts to provide the best possible education for children.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recipient</th>
<th>School</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paul Trader</td>
<td>Lourdes Academy High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rick Duncan</td>
<td>Lourdes Academy High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
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Doug Michie  
**Physics and Biology**  
Oshkosh North High School

Linda Geffers  
**Art Education**  
Oshkosh West High School

Andrew Schaller  
**Social Studies**  
Oshkosh West High School

Brett Hartman  
**English**  
Oshkosh West High School

Jeanne Gutierrez  
**English**  
Valley Christian School

Martha Wahl  
**Science and Mathematics**  
Valley Christian School

Becca Jepson  
**Mathematics**  
Valley Christian School

**Rudoy Technology Grant**

With an understanding of the critical role technology plays in education and the challenge schools face keeping up with the evolving market of devices and tools that can enhance learning, the Edward and Belle Rudoy Fund provides grants for technology. The Rudoy Fund Technology Grant recipients of 2016 are Oshkosh West High School and Lourdes Academy. The grant to Oshkosh West will provide the technology necessary for students to engage in the 4Cs: critical thinking, collaboration, communication and creativity. The grant to Lourdes Academy supports their Computer Science Integration program where students will receive new computers and tablets for STEM projects. Schools submitted more than $50,000 in technology grant funding requests.

**Celebrate Education Grants**

These grants assist teachers in bringing new and innovative programs to their classrooms. They are funded by the Mid-Morning Kiwanis Club of Oshkosh, the Zmolek Family Education Fund and the Oshkosh Area School District Education Foundation. More than $78,000 in proposals for Celebrate Education grants were submitted to the Foundation during a competitive process earlier this year.

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Anne Sieck</td>
<td>Jefferson Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Intensive Autism Interventions in Early Childhood</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonnie Barber</td>
<td>Valley Christian Preschool</td>
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<td><strong>STEM Fun in 4K</strong></td>
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<td>Meghan Neveau</td>
<td>Read Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Home to School Connection Backpacks</strong></td>
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<td>Mandy Froehlich</td>
<td>Franklin Elementary School</td>
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<td><strong>Move Toward Personalized Learning Classrooms</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Melanie Floyd</td>
<td>Washington Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Building Social/Emotional Strength</strong></td>
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<td>Zong Vang</td>
<td>Webster Stanley Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>STEM Classroom</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Karen Coats</td>
<td>Lourdes Academy Seton</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Building Lifetime Friendships</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Julie Runde</td>
<td>Carl Traeger Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>One Book One CommuniTE Summer Book Club</strong></td>
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Nick Mees  
*Cultivating Produce Through Hydroponics*  
Merrill Middle School

Michelle Haydin  
*iLove iPads*  
Valley Christian Elementary School

Laurin Endres  
*Multicultural Literacy*  
ALPS Charter School

Kathy Horejs  
*And The Newbery Medal Winner Is*  
Lourdes Academy Middle School

Dennis Cooley  
*Well-Rounded Religion*  
Valley Christian School

Ann Frazier  
*Smart-Pens for Smart Kids*  
Valley Christian School

Larry Abel  
*Making Magnetism Amazing*  
Valley Christian School

Ivy Jeskie  
*School Garden—The Next Step*  
Second Chance

Gillian Pakula  
*C.A.R.E. 16*  
Oshkosh West High School

Kyra Sawyer  
*Increasing Tolerance Through Theater*  
Oshkosh North High School

LeeAnn Morrill  
*PBIS Take Hold—Take 2*  
Oshkosh North High School

**UWO College of Education and Human Services Teacher Excellence Awards**

This is the first year the UWO College of Education and Human Services will be awarding education grants to local elementary school teachers. These teachers were nominated by their principals to receive a grant for classroom enhancement or professional development.

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<tr>
<td>Brittany Glad</td>
<td>Carl Traeger Elementary School</td>
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<td>Robin Goedderz</td>
<td>Oaklawn Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shannon Van Scyoc</td>
<td>Valley Christian School</td>
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The Oshkosh Area Community Foundation is a nonprofit charitable organization created by and for the people of Winnebago County, Waushara County, Green Lake County and Ripon. Through charitable giving, the Community Foundation strives to make our communities thrive. For more information, please call 920-426-3993.

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