



Quality programs that inform, involve and inspire

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NOMINATE YOUR FAVORITE WASHINGTON STATE EDUCATOR FOR KCTS 9'S STATEWIDE GOLDEN APPLE AWARDS

SEATTLE—For over 18 years, KCTS 9 has been honoring the best teachers and educational programs in Washington state through the KCTS 9 Golden Apple Awards for Excellence in Education. Now, families, colleagues and students from across the state have the opportunity to elevate their own inspirational educator or program by nominating them for a 2009 Golden Apple Award. Sponsored by KCTS 9 and funded by PEMCO Insurance and School Employees Credit Union of Washington, this statewide program honors outstanding individuals and programs making a difference in Washington state education.

Anyone contributing time or services in Washington state schools, at any grade level from pre-K through 12, may be nominated for a Golden Apple Award. Everyone from teachers, administrators, staff and volunteers, to education or community programs and local businesses, is eligible; nominations may be made by students, parents, teachers or community members. Nomination forms are available at KCTS9.org/goldenapple or 1.800.766.0900. KCTS 9 will contact nominees directly for more detailed information, and a panel of community and education leaders will select the individuals and programs to be honored.

Nomination forms must be faxed or postmarked by April 30, 2009.

Golden Apple Award winners will be honored in ceremonies to be held in January, 2010, in Seattle. As part of this recognition, each winner will receive a "Golden Apple" statuette; individual honorees will also receive \$250, and each winning program will receive \$500. PEMCO Insurance will also award each recipient a \$1,500 grant to support their classroom, school or educational program. Winners will be featured in a primetime broadcast on public television stations statewide in February 2010.

The KCTS 9 Golden Apple Awards were established to recognize and honor examples of exceptional teaching and educational innovation in Washington. Since its inception, KCTS 9 has received nominations citing the achievements of more than 3,000 individuals and programs across Washington, leading to the selection of more than 170 outstanding educators and programs from every corner of the state. Last year's honorees came from Yakima, Seattle, Vancouver, Tacoma, Redmond, Mount Vernon and Cowiche. They were honored at ceremonies attended by 450 people from across Washington. Dave Anderson, a 2008 winner, said of the awards, "Thank you for promoting the positive in public education... I cannot convey how much this award means to me, my family and the Mount Vernon community."

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The KCTS 9 mission is to improve the quality of life in the communities we serve by providing meaningful programming on air, online and in the community that informs, involves and inspires.