



Indiana Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance Announces 2016 State Teachers of the Year

The Association also recognizes award recipients for Outstanding Student, Young Professional, Leadership, Pathfinder, Special Contributor, Honor, and Legacy

Six collegiate scholarship recipients recognized

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Indianapolis, IN. (November 3, 2016) – Indiana AHPERD – the Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (INAHPERD) Educators today announced its 2016 state Teacher of the Year award winners, five individuals who are among the elite of the adapted physical education, school health and physical education professions.

The state award recipients — selected from among educators representing Indiana’s schools — were announced during the organization’s Awards Banquet at the State Convention & Expo in Indianapolis.

The Teacher of the Year Award provides a means through which Indiana AHPERD recognizes the work of outstanding physical education and health education teachers.

The Teacher of the Year awards are given in recognition of outstanding teaching performance and the ability to motivate today’s youth to participate in a lifetime of physical activity. At the convention, INAHPERD celebrated the 99th anniversary of the organization founded in 1917.

The state Teacher of the Year is selected among nominees after rigorous evaluation by the selection committee. The 2016 state Teachers of the Year are:

Adapted Physical Education — Amy Oliver, Muncie Central High School

“Mrs. Oliver is committed to providing appropriate and challenging physical activities that promote healthy living to all students, especially our students with disabilities. She is an extension of the classroom utilizing every necessary technique and methodology to assist students in maximizing their potential. Serving as a role model for all students, Mrs. Oliver exemplifies a positive individual who is passionate about healthy living and incorporating fitness into daily activities.” (Robin Peckinpaugh , Assistant Director, Delaware Blackford Special Education Cooperative)

Health Education — Maria Hallman, DeKalb High School

“Mrs. Hallman has not only been outstanding in the classroom, she has engaged in multiple facets of her school as the lead teacher in the bullying program, a key member of the culture and climate team, and adding rigor and relevance to the credit flexibility program. She sets high expectations for her students and utilizes technology on a regular basis to help students engage in meaningful activities.” (Mathew Toth, Principal, DeKalb High School)

Elementary Physical Education — Zach Kelley, White Lick Elementary School

“Zach is the Pied Piper of physical education. Students love his unique activities and units that he plans and all are developmentally appropriate. Zach is passionate about instilling his message of lifetime fitness and activity to his students. Zach encourages his students to learn not only the “what” of movement, skills, or activities/sports, but to learn the “why”. He allows his students to have maximum touches during the activity, thus serving two purposes: more activity and greater skill development.” (Roberta Sipe, Adjunct Professor, University of Indianapolis).

Middle School Physical Education — Megan Mathew, Hamilton Heights Middle School

“Megan Mathew has transformed the middle school PE department into a lively, engaging, and dynamic program that helps students better understand how to live a healthy lifestyle while having fun at the same time. Megan understands middle school students and passionately finds creative ways to meet their needs.” (Bret Bailey, Principal, Hamilton Heights Middle School)

High School Physical Education — Katy McClure, Wabash High School

“Katy is reflective, innovative, dedicated, and a superior role model. She individualizes each student’s physical education program to allow all students to have their own individual benchmarks, which are assessed and then modified to encourage student performance. Katy is always setting a great example for her students, whether that is living a healthy lifestyle, participating with the students in their classroom fitness activities, or promoting health and fitness through social media.” (Khristian Atchison, Department Chair, Wabash High School)

During the awards banquet, the association also recognized the outstanding contributions and achievements of professionals who have contributed to the advancement of the profession. They include:

Leadership Award: Lisa Hicks, University of Indianapolis

An individual who has demonstrated significant leadership in terms of program development in health, physical education, recreation, dance, and/or allied areas, and whose contributions reflect prestige, honor, and dignity to the Association.

Young Professional Award: Daniel Tennesen, Avondale Meadows Academy

A younger member of the Association who has demonstrated outstanding potential in teaching, scholarship, and service, and if continued, indicates that he/she will develop into a distinguished member of the profession.

Outstanding Student Award: Svea Nelson, Purdue University

An undergraduate student who has displayed distinctive leadership and meritorious service to his/her profession of health, physical education, recreation, dance, and/or allied areas.

Special Contributor Award: Molly Powell, Indiana Sports Corporation

An individual who is outside of health, physical education, recreation, dance, and sport but who, through his/her work, has contributed significantly to the general purposes of the Association.

The Pathfinder Award: Renee Frimming, University of Southern Indiana

The Pathfinder Award was established to honor members who have and/or continue to advocate, recruit, and enhance opportunities for girls and women in sport and sport leadership.

Honor Award: LeAnn Haggard, North Central High School

An individual who is clearly outstanding in his/her profession with long and distinguished service to health, physical education, recreation, dance, and/or allied areas.

Legacy Award: Jennifer Jones, Vincennes University

An individual in the health, physical education, recreation, dance, sport, and/or allied professions who have given long and distinguished service. The award recognizes those persons who have left a legacy, a benchmark, or a standard in professional service, scholarship, and leadership.

Jean Lee / Jeff Marvin Collegiate Scholarships Each year the Indiana AHPERD awards six (6) \$1,000 scholarships to undergraduate students who are attending an Indiana college or university, will be juniors or seniors during the coming academic year, and are majoring in health education, physical education, recreation, dance education, or allied areas (including sport administration). The 2016 recipients of the Jean Lee / Jeff Marvin Collegiate Scholarships are:

- Adriana Brown, Manchester University
- Jared Bourff, Manchester University
- Brittany Duncan, University of Southern Indiana
- Thomas Kendall, University of Indianapolis
- Amy Lingenfelter, Purdue University
- Cody McCulloch, University of Indianapolis

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The Indiana Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (IAHPERD) is a professional education association for teachers, administrators, researchers, coaches, students, and other allied professionals who are actively engaged in and dedicated to the promotion of quality health, physical education, recreation, dance, sport, and allied programming in public and private schools, colleges and universities, and community agencies throughout the state of Indiana. The mission of IAHPERD is to enhance the credibility of the disciplines within our Association through advocacy, professional development, and research-based pedagogies resulting in healthier communities.

The Association is affiliated with SHAPE America (Society for Health and Physical Education) and the Midwest District of SHAPE America. This affiliation provides a strong national voice for its members on professional and legislative issues and keeps its members and the public aware of professional and legislative developments.