



2013 Florida Reading Association's Reading Teacher of the Year Nomination Procedures

The following requirements must be met in nominating a candidate for the 2013 Florida Reading Association (FRA) Reading Teacher of the Year for elementary, middle and high school levels:

- Prior to **August 31, 2013**, participating districts must select candidates who will represent the district as the Reading Teacher of the Year at the elementary, middle and high school levels. Please submit one candidate per level. The method used to select the candidate may vary according to the district.
- Submit the completed nomination packets **with a cover letter** from the district reading contact listed on the District K-12 Comprehensive Reading Plan verifying that the nominees have been selected as the District Reading Teachers of the Year.
- Include **three letters of recommendation per nominee of no more than one page in length**. These may be selected from colleagues, the teacher's principal, a parent, a present or former student, an administrator and/or a civic or community leader.
- **No more than three recommendation letters will be accepted per applicant.**
- Mail the original application packet **including materials requested** to the address provided below.
- **Email Sections I-II of the FRA Reading Leader of the Year Application no later than August 31, 2013, to onechalkdust@verizon.net under the subject line: Reading Teacher of the Year Award.**
- FRA will consider and review only the materials requested in the nomination packet, thus additional materials submitted with the application will not be considered.
- State winners will receive a cash prize of \$300 and a certificate of recognition.

_packets must be postmarked
no later than
August 31, 2013

The nomination packet should be forwarded to

Ann Smith
4142 Camino Real
Sarasota, FL 34321

Selection committee members from FRA will choose one winner each for elementary, middle and high school.

If your District Reading Teachers of the Year are selected as winners, they will be notified by September 30, 2013. Florida Reading Association will make the announcements to the media and

publish the identities of the winners on the FRA website at www.flreads.org. The winners will be recognized at the annual FRA conference in Orlando.

Eligibility

Each district may nominate only one reading teacher at the elementary school level, one reading teacher at the middle school level, and one reading teacher at the high school level. Only the district reading contact designated on the front page of the District K-12 Reading Plan may submit the nomination. Nominations should be made without regard to race, age, sex, national origin, religion or disability.

The following full-time district educators are eligible for nomination:

- Full-time elementary classroom teachers responsible for reading instruction for students on a daily basis – Grades K-5
- Full-time reading intervention teachers – Grades K-5
- Full-time reading intervention teachers – Grades 6-12
- Full-time reading teachers – Grades 6-12
- Content area reading intervention teachers – Grades 6-12

Selection Criteria

Each district nominee will be evaluated based upon the following criteria:

- Demonstrates a superior ability to foster excellence in education and contribute to the continuous improvement of student learning and the school environment
- Displays expertise in the area of reading and an ability to effectively use materials relating to reading instruction
- Utilizes original and/or innovative instructional materials and methods such as cooperative learning and interdisciplinary instruction, uses research-based programs, develops new instructional materials and uses technology to facilitate reading instruction
- Maintains a record of superior teaching performance as evidenced by data-driven student gains, annual performance assessments and/or recognition of work
- Actively participates in continued professional development as evidenced by participation in relevant training and/or advanced degrees
- Demonstrates leadership in educational activities at the school, district and/or state and national level, such as active membership in a Reading Leadership Team, task force or professional organization, or through involvement as a grade-level or department chair
- Displays exemplary interpersonal skills in communicating with students, parents and community members as well as in collaboration with other professionals
- Participates in peer coaching and mentoring activities

- Utilizes innovative research techniques, such as action research, to enhance the quality of education
- Engages parents/families in the learning process to enhance student literacy achievement
- Promotes literacy through the use of reading strategies in instruction and/or the implementation of projects intended to enhance student reading skills
- Demonstrates a strong commitment to creating a climate of caring and respect conducive to effective teaching and learning
- Evidence of dedication to his/her community through active participation in service-oriented projects, volunteer work, etc.



Instructions for Completing Sections I and II of the 2013 Florida Reading Association's Reading Teachers of the Year Application

Respond to both of the following sections. **Responses must be typed, double-spaced and no less than 11 point font.** Begin each section on a new page. At the top of the page, specify the section number and title. (A sample header should read as follows: “**I. Educational History and Professional Development Activities.**”) If the section allows more than one page for the response, the subsequent pages need only be identified with the section number.

Limit your answers to the number of pages requested in each section. In fairness to all applicants, only the number of pages requested will be reviewed.

I. Educational History and Professional Development Activities *(Limit response to two pages)*

Provide a copy of your resume, including the following information:

1. Beginning with the most recent, list colleges and universities attended including postgraduate studies. Indicate degrees earned and dates of attendance.
2. Beginning with the most recent, list teaching employment history, indicating time period, grade level and subject area.
3. Beginning with the most recent, list professional association memberships including information regarding offices held and other relevant activities undertaken within the five-year period preceding the filing of this application.
4. Beginning with the most recent, list staff development leadership activities, training in instructional strategies and/or leadership activities in the training of current teachers undertaken within the five-year period preceding the filing of this application.
5. Beginning with the most recent, list awards and honors in recognition of your teaching abilities.
6. Provide all relevant data that will support your effectiveness as a reading teacher.

II. Reading Teacher Philosophy

(Limit response to five pages)

Respond to the question below. Response must be typed, double-spaced and no less than 11 point font.

Summarize your philosophy of teaching. Be sure to include how your philosophy is reflected in the following areas:

1. Professional Development
2. Student Instruction
3. Promoting a Culture of Literacy (include Student Performance Data)



2013 District Nomination Form

Reading Teacher of the Year

Elementary School
Reading Teacher
of the Year Nominee: _____

Middle School
Reading Teacher of
the Year Nominee: _____

High School Reading
Teacher
of the Year Nominee: _____

School District: _____

Name of District
Reading Contact: _____

District Reading Contact
Address: _____

District Reading
Contact's Numbers: () _____ _____
 Telephone Fax

District Reading Contact's
Email Address: _____

I acknowledge that this nomination is submitted with my approval.

District Reading Contact's Signature



2013 Elementary Reading Teacher Application Form

Name

Home Address

Teacher's Home Email Address

City

Zip

Home Telephone
()

School

District

School Address

City

Zip

Teacher's Work Email Address

School Telephone
()

School Fax
()

**Total Years
Teaching Experience**

**Number of Years
Teaching Reading**

**Number of Years
in Present Position**

Subject Area(s) in which you hold a Florida Teaching Certificate

Signature of Nominee

Date



2013 Middle School Reading Teacher Application Form

Name

Home Address

Teacher's Home Email Address

City

Zip

()
Home Telephone

School

District

School Address

City

Zip

Teacher's Work Email Address

()

School Telephone

()

School Fax

Total Years
Teaching Experience

Number of Years
Teaching Reading

Number of Years
in Present Position

Subject Area(s) in which you hold a Florida Teaching Certificate

Signature of Nominee

Date



2013 High School Reading Teacher Application Form

Name

Home Address

Teacher's Home Email Address

City

Zip

() _____
Home Telephone

School

District

School Address

City

Zip

Teacher's Work Email Address

() _____

School Telephone

() _____

School Fax

**Total Years
Teaching Experience**

**Number of Years
Teaching Reading**

**Number of Years
in Present Position**

Subject Area(s) in which you hold a Florida Teaching Certificate

Signature of Nominee

Date