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News Release

Nominations Welcomed to Honor Colorado Teacher of the Year

The Colorado Department of Education today announced nominations are being accepted for the 2009 Colorado Teacher of the Year. Applications are due August 15, 2008.

The annual Colorado Teacher of the Year Program has long provided the state with its most prestigious educator award, established to recognize the contributions of the classroom teacher to the students he or she teaches and beyond that, to the continued growth and well-being of the state.

"The classroom teacher is the backbone of the American educational system," said Colorado Department of Education Teacher of the Year Coordinator Barbara L. Lautenbach. "No one person has a greater impact on the education of a child than does the teacher who creates the primary learning and instructional environment."

Each year, in order to recognize the contributions of Colorado's classroom teachers, CDE encourages fellow educators, education administrators, parents and community members to nominate their best and brightest teachers for Colorado Teacher of the Year.

The 2009 Colorado Teacher of the Year application is available at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/download/pdf/2009%20CTOY%20app.pdf>. Nominees must fill out and submit their own applications by August 15, 2008. An external selection committee will determine the finalists

and make a final decision in October when the 2009 Colorado Teacher of the Year will be announced.

For more information, visit

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/trtoyinf.htm>.

For more information, contact Barbara L. Lautenbach in the CDE Professional Services unit, 303-866-6932; Mark Stevens, 303-866-3898, or Megan McDermott, 303-866-2334, in the CDE Office of Communications. To sign up for the CDE e-mail news service, please visit <http://www.cde.state.co.us/Communications/index.html>.

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