UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE
LERNER BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

Center for Economic Education and Entrepreneurship

Bonnie T. Meszaros Economic Educator of the Year Award

Background

Each year, The University of Delaware Center for Economic Education and Entrepreneurship (CEEE) recognizes one Delaware teacher who demonstrates a sustained history of commitment and contribution to economic education. Outstanding teachers may nominate themselves or may be nominated by a peer, school administrator, curriculum specialist, or community or business representative.

Eligibility for the Bonnie T. Meszaros Economic Educator of the Year Award

- Must be a full-time Delaware K-12 classroom teacher during the current academic year, who has been engaging students in economic education for five or more years.

Evaluation Criteria

- **Teaching:** Direct contact with K-12 students in economics-related courses, programs and/or extracurricular activities, and possesses the ability to attract and stimulate students to achieve a greater understanding of economics. *What makes your approach to integrating economics into your classroom exemplary? How do you keep your students motivated and inspired to learn?*
- **Professional Learning:** Extra-programmatic activities of any kind and at any level that contribute to their own economic education (e.g. taking classes, attending professional learning, trainings, workshops and conferences). *How do you grow your passion for and knowledge of economics?*
- **Economic Program Development:** Activities that contribute to the planning, design, or development of improvements in economic education for colleagues at the K-12 level (e.g. leading professional learning workshops, writing and sharing lessons, designing curriculum). *How do you share your passion for and knowledge of economics?*

Nomination Materials

- A **nomination letter** of no more than one page presenting the full case for the nomination with specific reference to the evaluation criteria.
- A **personal statement** by the nominee of no more than four pages addressing each of the evaluation criteria for the award (using specific subheadings for each criteria).
- A **curriculum vitae** of no more than three pages organized according to the following categories:
    - Education
    - Courses taught during the past five years
    - Program and curriculum development
    - Service to education community
    - Outreach and other activities related to teaching/learning
    - Published works
- **Two letters of recommendation** from colleagues (e.g., principal, fellow teacher, district supervisor) indicating the success or impact that the nominee has had on student learning in economics. Letters should address the evaluation criteria and cite specific examples.

Please submit all nomination materials in a single PDF to bacons@udel.edu no later than noon on March 5, 2027.

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Evaluation Procedure

The CEEE Education Committee will review the completed nomination packages by using the above evaluation criteria, along with the quality of the nomination materials, for selecting the award recipient.

In recognition of the time and energy spent on nominations, nominations that are unsuccessful in their original submission year will remain in the nomination pool for two additional years or until successful, whichever comes first. Nominees do not need to do anything further to keep their nominations active. However, they may update any materials when desired during the 3-year window.

Prize

$1,000 will be awarded to the recipient of the Bonnie T. Meszaros Economic Educator of the Year Award.

Presentation of Awards

The Bonnie T. Meszaros Economic Educator of the Year Award recipient will be recognized at the July 14, 2027, CEEE Personal Finance and Economic Education Conference at the University of Delaware.

Dr. Bonnie T. Meszaros was associate director of the University of Delaware's Center for Economic Education and Entrepreneurship for nearly 50 years. Even in retirement, Dr. Meszaros continues to be a mentor, collaborator, and leader whose expertise and encouragement helps teachers thrive. She has trained and inspired countless teachers, creating a multiplier effect in which her work has reached hundreds of thousands of students who now better understand the world of economics.

This award honors Meszaros' unwavering commitment to empowering teachers and students, her dedication to building economic literacy, and her belief that children—at every age—deserve the tools to make informed choices in an economic world. Recipients of this award carry forward her passion, her leadership, and her immeasurable impact on education.

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