

National Partnership for Educational Access (NPEA)  
and the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation  
2017 Award for Excellence in Educational Access  
*Sponsored by the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation*

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**Award Information, Criteria, and Nomination Instructions**

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**Background:**

The National Partnership for Educational Access (NPEA) and Jack Kent Cooke Foundation are pleased to announce the **2017 Award for Excellence in Educational Access**.

**The 2017 Award will recognize overall Excellence in Educational Access.** In addition to recognition on NPEA's website and social media sites, as well as a formal announcement at the annual conference, **the winner of the 2017 Award for Excellence in Educational Access will receive a \$5,000 monetary gift.** We are grateful to the Cooke Foundation for generously sponsoring the 2017 Award for Excellence in Educational Access.

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**Conference and Award Details:**

The winner of the Award will be announced at the 2017 national conference in Boston, MA. The conference, *Journeys to Success: Equity and Access for All Students*, will be held on April 5-7, 2017 at the Hyatt Regency Cambridge, Overlooking Boston. For more information about the conference, please visit: [www.educational-access.org/conference.php](http://www.educational-access.org/conference.php). Early bird conference registration rates will be available until Friday, February 24, 2017. While encouraged, you do not have to attend the conference to be eligible to win.

**Award Criteria:**

The *Award for Excellence in Educational Access* recognizes an NPEA Member Organization/Program or School who has made a notable difference in the lives of underrepresented students and has demonstrated:

- 1) Effective practices in supporting underrepresented students with high-quality educational opportunities along the k-16 continuum;
- 2) Commitment to using data to inform and improve programming as well as organizational/school practices more broadly;
- 3) Support for students' personal growth and success as critical thinkers, ethical leaders, and supportive community members;
- 4) Commitment to sustainability, including evidence of systems that support long-term success and/or potential growth;
- 5) Leadership in the community and commitment to the field of educational access; and

- 6) Creative problem-solving, innovation, adaptability, and productive growth in meeting the needs of their constituents.

**Eligibility:**

- Only current NPEA Members\* in good standing are eligible for nomination.
- Members can, and are encouraged to, nominate themselves. ***Please note:***  
***Individuals are not eligible to win this Award.***
- NPEA member must be able to demonstrate program/school impact, results, and student success.

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**Nomination Instructions:**

To submit a nomination for this award, please complete a brief online *NPEA/Cooke Foundation Award for Excellence* nomination form here: <http://bit.ly/NP2017Award>.

Nominations will include the following:

- Contact information for the NPEA Member Org/Program or School
- Names and contact information for at least two references who can speak to the qualifications of the NPEA Member Org/Program or School
- Description of the NPEA Member's mission and services
- Description of the NPEA Member's success and impact on the lives of underrepresented students and families, as evidenced through demonstrations of the six award criteria referenced on the previous page

Nominations must be received no later than **Tuesday, February 28**.

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**Questions:**

For questions about the award criteria, eligibility, and/or the nomination process, please contact Carrie Tate, *Assistant Director of NPEA*, at [ctate@tsf.org](mailto:ctate@tsf.org) or (617) 423-6300 x228.

\*To confirm membership status, please contact Zeva Levine, *NPEA Member Services Senior Associate*, at [zlevine@tsf.org](mailto:zlevine@tsf.org) or (617) 423-6300 x263. If you would like to apply and your membership is not current, Zeva can assist you with your renewal. For descriptions of member types and to see a full list of members, please visit: [www.educational-access.org](http://www.educational-access.org).