



Virginia Council for the Social Studies

State Affiliate of the National Council for the Social Studies

TO: Social Studies Teachers
Social Studies Specialists/Supervisors
School Administrators

RE: Virginia Council for the Social Studies Teacher of the Year

Greetings,

Each year, the Virginia Council for the Social Studies (VCSS) recognizes outstanding teachers of the social studies K-12. The Teacher of the Year is the Virginia Social Studies educator who makes social studies lively, engaging and informative for his/her students while also developing the thinking skills and habits of inquiry necessary for effective democratic citizenship. Criteria for the award include but are not limited to:

1. Develop or use instructional materials creatively and effectively.
2. Incorporate innovative and verifiable effective instructional strategies and techniques.
3. Demonstrate an ability to foster the development of democratic beliefs and values, and the skills needed for citizen participation appropriate to students' grade level in classroom, school, and community settings.
4. Current member of the VCSS (Membership link: www.vcss.org).

The Virginia Teacher of the Year will receive:

- \$500.00 for professional purposes
- Recognized at the annual conference of the Virginia Council for the Social Studies in the fall.
- Membership on the VCSS Board of Directors
- Opportunity to present at the following years VCSS Conference
- A presentation of a globe by Nystrom Herff Jones Education Division Company

In short, the Council seeks the nominations of exemplary social studies professionals. Please pass on this information to the appropriate staff in order to ensure that recognition is given to a deserving recipient. Thank you for your support and participation.

Sincerely,

VCSS Teacher of the Year Committee