

New Jersey Students and Leaders To Be Honored at 35th Governor's Awards in Arts Education

TRENTON, N.J., On May 27, 2015, more than 100 students and education leaders will be honored at the 35th Annual Governor's Awards in Arts Education at the Patriots Theater in the War Memorial in Trenton, New Jersey.

The event celebrates the best in arts education from across the state and recognizes the creativity, talent and leadership of the award winners. The award ceremony will feature remarks by Assistant Secretary of State Carol Cronheim, Assistant Commissioner of Education Kimberly Harrington. Nick Paleologos, Executive Director of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts will, along with Assistant Secretary of State Cronheim, will present the awards.

This year's awards are being presented to 94 students and 14 education leaders. National and statewide organizations selected the students for their exemplary work in creative writing, speech, dance, music, theatre and visual art. Education and arts professionals were chosen for their exceptional commitment and contribution to arts education.

Robert Morrison, Governance Chair of New Jersey Arts Education Partnership, commented, "These young men and women have shown that creativity sparks a passion for learning. We are here today to celebrate the critical role arts education plays in the development of our young citizens."

The Governor's Awards in Arts Education are a joint project between the New Jersey Arts Education Partnership, the New Jersey State Department of Education, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts -- a division of the New Jersey Department of State, and ArtPride NJ Foundation. Additional support is provided by: Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics; Art Educators of New Jersey; Art Administrators of New Jersey; Dance New Jersey; New Jersey Council of Teachers of English; New Jersey Forensic League; New Jersey Music Educators Association; New Jersey Performing Arts Center; Playwrights Theatre of New Jersey; Quadrant Arts Education Research; Speech and Theatre Association of New Jersey; Very Special Arts of New Jersey; and Young Audiences/New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania.

The New Jersey Arts Education Partnership (NJ AEP) is a cosponsored project of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and the ArtPride New Jersey Foundation, with additional support from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the New Jersey Department of Education, the Prudential Foundation and Quadrant Research. The mission of the NJ AEP is to provide a unified voice for a diverse group of constituents who agree on the educational benefits and impact of the arts, specifically the contribution they make to student achievement and a civilized, sustainable society.

A complete list of winners may be downloaded at www.artsednj.org

###