

ACPS Teacher Awards

Each year The Washington Post recognizes a teacher who exemplifies excellence in their profession with a Teacher of the Year Award. ACPS also honors one teacher and one principal of the year.

The award recognizes teachers who exemplify teaching at its best and I am pleased to share the names of the teachers from each school who were nominated for the ACPS Teacher of the Year Award:

- Eighth-grade science teacher and instructional leader at the Francis C. Hammond International Academy, **Dr. James Abbatiello**
- Fourth-grade English Language Arts teacher at Mount Vernon Community School, **Molly Boyle**
- Seventh-grade English Language Arts teacher at George Washington Middle School, **Anika Buster-Singleton**
- First-grade teacher at George Mason Elementary School, **Jean Dean**
- Fourth-grade teacher at John Adams Elementary School, **Nicole Demski**
- First- grade teacher at Matthew Maury Elementary School, **Shannon Evans**
- Second-grade teacher at William Ramsay Elementary School, **Katherine “Elizabeth” Hwang**
- High school English teacher at the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center School, **David Jelliffe**
- Second-grade teacher at Patrick Henry Elementary School, **Dorothy Kwakye**
- Music educator at Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy, **Debra Kay Robinson Lindsay**
- Fifth-grade teacher at Cora Kelly School for Math, Science and Technology, **Clarence Minor**
- Lead social studies teacher and AVID site coordinator at Jefferson-Houston School, **Carlos Seward**
- 12th-grade U.S. and Virginia Government teacher at T.C. Williams, **Ra’ Alim Shabazz**
- Talented and Gifted teacher at Douglas MacArthur Elementary School, **Jennifer Street**

I would also like to recognize three teachers who were not able to be here tonight:

- Art teacher at Samuel Tucker Elementary School, **Sean Murphy**
- Fifth-grade teacher at James K. Polk Elementary School, **Marie Peaches**
- First-grade teacher at Charles Barrett Elementary School, **Sheila Walsh**

Out of these teachers, one was selected by a panel of administrators and winners from last year as the **ACPS Teacher of the Year** and finalist for The Washington Post 2016 Teacher of the Year. Please welcome, **Molly Freitag**.

Molly is an A.P. World Studies teacher at T.C. Williams High School and is a National Board Certified Teacher in Social Studies/History.

Molly has been with ACPS since 2009. In addition to her many teaching accolades, she has also served as the Superintendent's Student Leadership Committee Teacher Advisor, Social Studies Department Chair and an A.P. Exam Reader for A.P. World History. She has also taught U.S./Virginia Government, A.P. U.S. Government and Politics, and World Civilizations.

Molly is passionate about the study of history and is known for creating an exemplary learning community and student-centered classroom. Molly's roles as the sponsor of the history club, including the Living Legends project and National History Day competition, and as a mentor for Operation Graduation, which helps students reach their full potential and graduate on time, are just some of the things that make her an outstanding teacher.