



Finalists announced for 2024 Toyota Family Teacher of the Year

Educators in Kentucky, Virginia, Washington, Indiana, and Alabama are in the running to receive \$20,000 towards their family engagement efforts.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOUISVILLE, KY (October 7, 2024) – The National Center for Families Learning (NCFL) is excited to announce the finalists for the 2024 Toyota Family Teacher of the Year. For 28 years, NCFL and Toyota have partnered to recognize educators from across the nation who use a strong multi-generational approach to learning and focus on building effective family-school partnerships that support student achievement and school improvement.

Educators from across the country were nominated by their peers or leadership to be considered for the 2024 Toyota Family Teacher of the Year honor. Finalists were chosen based on a variety of criteria, including demonstrating passion and persistence for supporting family engagement and implementing innovative ideas to expand their programs.

The educator selected as the 2024 Toyota Family Teacher of the Year will receive a \$20,000 grant to further ongoing family engagement efforts. One runner-up will receive \$5,000. The winner and runner-up will be officially announced in Louisville, Kentucky on November 20th during the 2024 Families Learning Conference, NCFL's premier convening of family learning educators, practitioners, researchers, and community-based organizations.

2024 Toyota Family Teacher of the Year finalists:

- Enjoli "CeCe" Craycroft, Student Community Liaison at Binet School in Louisville, Kentucky
- **Cassandra Kramer**, Adult ESOL, Workforce Readiness and Digital Literacy Instructor at English Empowerment Center in **Falls Church**, Virginia
- Adie Simmons, Founder & Executive Director at Washington Family Engagement in Edmonds, Washington
- Megan Singh, Adult Education Leader at Enlace Academy in Indianapolis, Indiana
- Denielia Turner, 2nd Grade Teacher at Rolling Hills Elementary Elementary School in Huntsville, Alabama

"Supporting and recognizing educators who successfully engage families in the learning process is a celebration of the richness they bring to all of our communities," said Ana Meade, vice president of sustainable development, Toyota. "By empowering and acknowledging the efforts of teachers nationwide, we are directly contributing to the development of well-prepared, innovative students for the jobs of tomorrow."

Since 1997, Toyota Family Teacher of the Year winners, runners-up, and their respective organizations have received \$700,000 and funded 56 innovative teacher-led projects. For a full list of past winners, visit <u>NCFL's website</u>.

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About the National Center for Families Learning (NCFL)

NCFL is a national nonprofit that has worked for more than 35 years to eradicate poverty through education solutions for families. We believe education is a shared, nonpartisan responsibility and that collaboration among families, schools, and community members can lead to powerful learning experiences. NCFL's vision is to establish coordinated and aligned family learning systems in 60 communities by 2030, built with and for families, to increase education and economic outcomes and create more equitable communities. For more information on NCFL, visit <u>familieslearning.org</u>. To learn more about our vision or become a Family Learning Community partner, visit <u>familieslearning.org/60x30</u>.

About Toyota

Toyota (NYSE:TM) has been a part of the cultural fabric in North America for more than 65 years, and is committed to advancing sustainable, next-generation mobility through our Toyota and Lexus brands, plus our more than 1,800 dealerships.

Toyota directly employs more than 63,000 people in North America who have contributed to the design, engineering, and assembly of nearly 47 million cars and trucks at our 12 manufacturing plants. By 2025, Toyota's 13th plant in North Carolina will begin to manufacture automotive batteries for electrified vehicles. With more electrified vehicles on the road than any other automaker, Toyota currently offers 28 electrified options.

For more information about Toyota, visit <u>www.ToyotaNewsroom.com</u>.