

International Reading Association

**Nila Banton Smith Award**  
**2007**

The International Reading Association directs that the Nila Banton Smith Award be given to a teacher who shows outstanding leadership in translating theory and current research into practice in developing content area literacy. The recipient of the award must be a classroom or a reading teacher who works directly with students on a consistent basis in a middle school, secondary school, vocational, or junior college setting. In addition to daily classroom teaching, the applicant/nominee must make a contribution to teaching content area reading skills at either the building or the district level. Applicants/nominees must be International Reading Association members.

**Deadline:** November 15, 2006

Ten (10) copies of the completed application must be received by this date. Applications from outside the continental United States should be sent via airmail.

**Mail application to:** Cathy Collins Block, Chairing  
Classroom Teacher Awards  
4413 Willow Way Road  
Fort Worth, TX 76133-6730, USA

**Requirements** (application may be completed by the applicant or by a qualified nominator):

- Respond with specific information to Parts I, II, III and/or IV, and V. Any answer that repeats a previous response may refer by Part and Letter to the earlier response.
- Total number of pages, including an appendix, is limited to fifteen (15) pages.
- Corroborative materials [limited to eight (8) pages] may be included in an appendix. This might include syllabi, newspaper clippings, photocopies, instructional materials designed by the applicant/nominee, etc.
- The winner will be notified by the Executive Director of the International Reading Association.
- The award will be presented at the International Reading Association's 2007 Annual Convention.
- The winner is expected to present at a special session at the above named convention. All expenses for borne by the winner. A cash prize of US\$1,000 is awarded by the International Reading Association.

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Complete all requirements and identify each part as follows:**

Part I – Page 1 of application

Part II – Classroom Level (70 points)

Part III – Building Level (35 points) and/or

Part IV – District Level (35 points)

(The higher point score of Parts III and IV will be used when both parts are completed.)

Part V – Principal or Supervisor's Statement (15 points)

Ten (10) copies of complete application included

I will attend if I am chosen

**Applications will NOT be returned.**

**The Nila Banton Smith Award Subcommittee has adopted the following procedures:**

1. Each application is assigned a number.
2. Part I is separated from the application
3. Each committee member reads each application and assigns a numerical value to each item.
4. After the completion of the reading, each member submits the tabulated figures on the checklists to the committee chairperson.
5. The committee chairperson compiles responses from each committee member.
6. The outstanding content area literacy application/nominee is selected.
7. The chairperson reads Part 1 of the selected applicant/nominee
8. The chairperson recommends the name of the award winner to the Board of Directors of the International Reading Association for approval.

**Applications will NOT be returned.**

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2007**

Application Form

**PART I -- Background Information on Applicant/Nominee**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Home E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

School Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

School E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal/Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

During what period of time was the initiative developed?

\_\_\_\_\_

Is initiative on-going? \_\_\_\_\_

Is applicant/nominee actively teaching in the initiative presently? \_\_\_\_\_

All facts on this form are true and can be used for publication.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Applicant)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Nominator, if applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Position of Nominator)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Telephone)



**PART II -- The Classroom Level (70 points) (This section must be completed by each applicant/nominee.**

Criteria: "Shows evidence of having implemented an initiative designed to promote reading and writing in the content area. Such an initiative should reflect appropriate use of a variety of instructional materials and strategies as well as provisions for individual differences."

- A. Describe your current classroom assignment. (5 points)
- B. Describe your content area literacy initiative in detail. You must include all of the following information:
  - 1. Goals (intent). (5 points)
  - 2. Population targeted, content areas involved. (5 points)
  - 3. Instructional strategies and materials used, provision for individual differences (include samples in appendix). (20 points)
  - 4. Research or theories upon which the initiative is based. (10 points)
  - 5. Evaluation procedure(s). (10 points)
  - 6. Results (effectiveness, impact). (15 points)

**PART III -- The Building Level -- Dissemination Activities (35 points)**

Criteria: "Conducts workshops or other staff development activities and/or exerts leadership in other ways designed to influence other teachers to integrate reading and writing with content area learning. Leadership activities should provide teachers with suggestions, materials, skills, knowledge, etc., to facilitate practical and immediate applications in the classroom."

- A. List the content areas that you have included in your classroom initiative. (5 points)
- B. Describe the ways in which you've shared your initiative with colleagues. (10 points)
- C. Explain how your initiative could be implemented in other classrooms. (10 points)
- D. Is your program being used as a model in other classrooms? Provide justification for a positive response. (10 points)

**PART IV -- The District Level (35 points)**

Criteria: "Demonstrates leadership by keeping well-informed of new developments in curriculum, instruction, and research and by applying that knowledge to promote appropriate innovations at the district level or beyond. Exemplifies the notion of teacher-as-researcher through willingness to participate in implementing innovations, documenting results of innovations, and sharing information with colleagues at the district level and beyond.

- A. List the buildings included in your district-level initiative. (5 points)
- B. Describe the ways you have shared your initiative with colleagues in the district. (5 points)
- C. Explain how your initiative could be implemented in other districts. (5 points)
- D. Describe the leadership you have been able to provide with your initiative. (5 points)
- E. List any publications which have derived from your initiative. (5 points)
- F. Has your content area literacy initiative involved you with district or regional, professional organizations? Give explanation. (5 points)
- G. Describe the process by which you have gathered information about content area literacy initiatives similar to your own. (5 points)

**PART V -- Principal/Supervisor's Statement (10 points)**

Include a statement from your principal or supervisor indicating that this application adequately reflects your contribution to reading in content area literacy. This should be a signed, dated letter on school/district letterhead.