

# **NSTOY**

## ***National State Teachers of the Year***

### **NSTOY HISTORY**

In 1980, eighty-six visionary State Teachers of the Year gathered in Omaha, NE. They organized to provide current and future Teachers of the Year with the opportunity to take a leading role in impacting education at the local, state, national and global levels. This was the beginning of a collaborative network of exemplary educators.

Chartered in 1984 in California, NSTOY is a nonprofit, nonpartisan service organization grounded in the belief that every child deserves teaching of the highest quality. Committed to the idea that education is a vital part of our democratic society, NSTOY strives to let the voice of outstanding teachers be heard in order to contribute to the continued improvement of mankind.

“You know what a world of difference a teacher can make to a student encountering a subject for the first time... A great teacher excites the interest and walks with them on the roads to knowledge, guiding their steps and pointing the way to new horizons.”

Thomas H. Kean,  
Governor of New Jersey  
1984 NSTOY Conference Address

**For further information, please contact:**

**NSTOY OFFICE**  
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**1320 C of E Drive**  
**Emporia, KS 66801**  
**1-800-96-TEACH**



### **NSTOY VISION COMMITTED TO EDUCATION**

**NSTOY will impact education with involvement in policy and decision-making through cooperation in our communities, as a voice in making a positive contribution for future generations of learners and educators, and through quality educational practices of its members.**



### **NSTOY MISSION STATEMENT**

**NSTOY is a leader and an advocate for educational excellence, supporting quality teaching and building communities of learning.**



### **BELIEFS:**

**We believe that NSTOY**

- **Is a voice and an advocate for quality education and recruitment of competent professionals;**
- **Impacts professional development of teachers;**
- **Brings teacher voice to influence policy for decision-making opportunities;**
- **Leads and advocates for educational excellence for every child through quality teaching;**
- **Stimulates professional growth of members and encourages active participation in a variety of educational activities; and**
- **Is an agent of progress.**

**Membership:** Any state/protectorate Teacher of the Year is eligible and invited into membership by NSTOY.

The Teacher of the Year (TOY) Award Program was initiated in 1952 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in order to bring recognition to the importance of teachers as nurturers of the “American Dream.” His intention to honor all teachers by selection of the representative teacher from each state would find completion in the yearly choice of a National Teacher of the Year. Through an organized and varied selection process involving classroom teachers, school administrators, state officials, students, parents, and business representatives, each state and US protectorate nominates its own Teacher of the Year. This name is then submitted to a national committee where the process is repeated and the final selection is made of the National Teacher of the Year. The National TOY program is co-sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO), Target, and the ING Foundation.

Since 1952, each year 54 State Teachers of the Year have been selected as TOYs, creating an impressive pool of dedicated teachers with the highest level of educational expertise.

“THE EXPERTISE AND TALENTS OF OUTSTANDING EDUCATORS SHOULD BE FULLY ACKNOWLEDGED AND UTILIZED IN ORDER TO ACTUATE A GREATER DEGREE OF ‘EXCELLENCE’ IN EDUCATION.”

**DR. TERRY L. WIEDMER & DR. RODNEY L. BROD**  
**“AMERICA’S NEGLECTED SUPER TEACHERS: TEACHERS OF THE YEAR”**  
**EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING**

# NSTOY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



- ▶ **ADVISORY/EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANTS:** NSTOY members provide continual professional support to teachers and educators across the US and territories by:
  - Creating the Speakers’ Bureau and supporting the National Teachers Hall of Fame: giving workshops, presentations, and serving as mentor teachers;
  - Giving teaching advice through “Ask Miss Ruth” in conjunction with NSTOY’s affiliation with Kappa Delta Pi ([www.kdp.org](http://www.kdp.org));
  - Writing for professional publications and journals; and
  - Initiating Teachers at the Table Act.
- ▶ **RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION:** NSTOY members recruit and retain the best and brightest by:
  - Awarding two scholarships per year for education majors;
  - Participating in Future Educator Academies and KDP conferences; and
  - Working with college students and mentoring career teachers.
- ▶ **BEST PRACTICE/ SUPPORT AND SERVE:** NSTOY provides leadership in promoting excellence in education by:
  - Providing practitioners’ workshops, conferences, and staff development for novice and veteran educators held throughout the continental U.S., Hawaii, Alaska, and Guam;
  - Communicating and connecting with Teachers of the Year regularly through newsletters, eNEWS, state NSTOY chapters, and the NSTOY website ([www.nstoy.org](http://www.nstoy.org)) to network and celebrate teaching;
  - Serving as a ready resource to bring non-partisan teachers’ voices on educational matters to governmental agencies, state legislators, and policy makers;
  - Celebrating excellence in teaching through collaboration with the Dolly Parton Foundation Chasing Rainbows Award, National Teacher Hall of Fame, and Kappa Delta Pi; and
  - Networking collaboratively with national and state professional education organizations, universities, school districts, civic groups, and other agencies dedicated to quality educational practices and creative research.

**FOCUS STATEMENT:** *America is in dire need of guidance and expertise concerning the future of education. NSTOY can be that pure beacon of hope to move all of America’s students forward. It is time! Though diverse in many ways, NSTOY members are recognized as accomplished experts in their fields with only one agenda— making quality teaching a MUST in every classroom for every student.*