



The National Association for Magnet and Theme-Based Schools

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Magnet Schools of America Selects 2016 Regional Principals of the Year

Washington, DC, March 12, 2016 - Magnet Schools of America (MSA) is pleased to announce the recipients of its Regional Principal of-the-Year Awards for 2016. Through a competitive application process, these individuals were selected from MSA's eight regions. They will be recognized during Magnet Schools of America's 34th National Conference in Miami, Florida May 3-7, 2016. They are all eligible to be selected as the National Magnet School Principal of-the-Year on the last day of the conference. "These magnet school leaders are recognized for setting high expectations within their schools and communities. They have demonstrated a strong commitment to theme-based education and maximizing learning opportunities for all students," said Magnet Schools of America, Executive Director Todd Mann.

2016 Regional Principals of the Year

- Region I - **Dr. Nicholas J. Spera**, Marine Science Magnet High School, LEARN, Connecticut, *Theme(s): Marine Science*
- Region II - **Karen Barnes**, Southwest Academy, Baltimore County Public Schools, Maryland, *Theme(s): Science and Engineering*
- Region III - **Martin T. Reid**, Arthur & Polly Mays Conservatory of the Arts, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Florida, *Theme(s): Visual Arts; Performing Arts; Communicative Arts*
- Region IV - **Shane Barham**, Wendell Creative Arts and Science Magnet Elementary School, Wake County Public School System, North Carolina, *Theme(s): Creative Arts and Science*
- Region V - **Nanette McCann**, Baton Rouge Magnet High School, East Baton Rouge Parish Schools, Louisiana, *Theme(s): Academic; Visual and Performing Arts*
- Region VII - **Lura Jo Atherly**, Jardine STEM & Career Exploration Middle Magnet Academy, Unified School District No. 259, Kansas, *Theme(s): Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics; Career Exploration*
- Region VIII - **Anne Grisham**, Sandy Miller Elementary School, Clark County School District, Nevada, *Theme(s): International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme*

Regional Principals of the Year are acknowledged by their peers for their exemplary contributions made to their profession and have demonstrated excellence in the following four areas:

- Promoting equity and diversity among students and staff within their magnet school;
- Providing equitable academic success for all students;
- Leadership implementing and sustaining an innovative magnet program;
- Evidence of leadership within the school district and the magnet community.

To be selected as a Regional Magnet School Principal of the Year, candidates must be nominated and submit a narrative application with three recommendation letters. In addition, they must be a member of Magnet Schools of America and have served as their school's principal for a minimum of three years. All applications are reviewed and scored by a panel of magnet educators.

To learn more about Magnet Schools of America's Principal of-the-Year Awards, please visit www.magnet.edu
Press Contact: John Laughner, Communications Manager, john.laughner@magnet.edu, 202-824-0672