

Instructions for Making Nominations * Deadline: June 15, 2016**

2016 Religious Educator of the Year

The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma, Inc. is pleased to honor the Religious Educators of our Archdiocese who represent the best within our Parish Religious Education/Formation Departments. This award is presented to an individual involved in Parish religious education/formation **as a religious educator in Youth, Confirmation, RCIA or Adult Education/Formation Programs** within the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

This is not meant to be a popularity contest but rather our criteria are to honor educators who exhibit qualities, skills and leadership that have made a difference in the lives of others in their Parish. The Award Winner must exemplify the Catholic Education mission statement of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City: *“The development of the whole person of the student, spiritually, intellectually, personally, socially and physically.”* A separate Catholic School Teacher of the Year Nomination form will be sent later in the year.

The Award will be given to a Religious Education/Formation Educator or Catechists as “Religious Educator of the Year”. At least two Finalists will also be recognized. The Parish of the Award Winner will **receive a \$5,000 Catholic Foundation Grant** for a specific project or projects in honor of the Award Winner. The Award Winner will receive a \$500 personal cash award and each Finalist will also receive a \$500 personal cash award. **No paid staff is eligible for this Award.** Funds will be available for a Reception for the Award Winner at their Parish of up to \$700.

Instructions:

- Please type or print legibly.
- **Please do not include additional letters of recommendation.**
- This form may be duplicated and descriptive information should be attached to this form on no more than **one side of one 8 ½” by 11”** sheet of paper.
- Information must be current.
- This award is presented to an individual involved in Parish religious education/formation **as a religious educator in Youth, Confirmation, RCIA or Adult Education/Formation Programs** within the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.
- Individuals nominated should be in process or have completed Youth Formation Certifications for RE, Youth and Confirmation educators (does not include RCIA or Adult Education)
- No paid staff is eligible for this Award.
- Be sure there is contact information of both the nominee and nominator on the form
- Deadline for this nomination is **June 15, 2016**
- Presentation this year will be at the Catechetical Congress on September 24, 2016 at the Catholic Pastoral Center.
- Please let your catechist/educator know that if they are chosen as a finalist, they will need to be available for a telephone interview and award presentation so they can be aware of a possible schedule conflict:
 - Interviews: **Wednesday, September 7th, 3pm – 6pm** (we will set up a 30 minute interview time with the finalists)
 - Presentation: Saturday, September 24th at the Catechetical Congress for Religious Educator of the Year Award.

Thank you for your time and effort to nominate when you have such busy schedules. If you have any further questions please contact me at 405-721-4115, 405-721-4114 (fax) or at bsemtner@archokc.org.

Barney Semtner
Executive Director
Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma, Inc.

Remember: **Deadline: June 15, 2016**