

School Psychologist of the Year 2001

Ten years ago the OSPA Executive Board voted to establish the School Psychologist of the Year Award – an award that would honor a member of OSPA for current excellence in service delivery. It was required, therefore, that at least seventy-five percent of the candidate's time be spent providing school psychological services to students, teachers, and parents, typically in a school setting. Nominations for this award are made by the OSPA regional associations, with each region submitting one nomination. The selection committee is composed of the officers of OSPA, the elected regional representatives, and the Awards Committee members. The person who is chosen for this award becomes OSPA's nominee for the NASP School Psychologist of the Year Award. In the past ten years OSPA has recognized the special contributions of these people: Ron Davis, Bruce Oppenhiemer, Michael Fuller, Joel Sutton, Joanne Wasco, Juliette Madigan, Valerie Lee, Laura White Gable, and James Kline.

This year three regions have chosen to nominate one of their members for this award. It is an honor to be nominated by a region and OSPA would like to take a few minutes to recognize each of the nominees. After each introduction would the nominee please come forward to accept a certificate from OSPA President Antoinette Miranda.

The nominee of the South West Ohio School Psychologists Association is Lyn Brumfield. She is employed by the West Carrollton City School District. She was nominated because of her indefatigable spirit in the service of children and families. Lyn is recognized for her professional and caring dedication to special needs children. She has had a special commitment to Special Olympics over the past twenty years, serving as soccer coach, basketball coach, and softball coach, working with the athletes on athletic skills, life skills, and self-esteem, and being instrumental in the shaping of Special Olympics in the Dayton area. Lyn has also made a special commitment to OSPA in serving as secretary and treasurer, guiding OSPA in making realistic fiscal decisions. Please join with OSPA in honoring Lyn Brumfield for her dedication to children and to her profession.

The nominee of the Kent-Akron Association of School Psychologists is Janet Brunecz. She is employed by Tuslaw Local Schools. She was nominated because of her dedication to the service of children and their families both within the school and in the community. Janet has been instrumental in the implementation of IBMFE projects in each of the four elementary school buildings and in the seventh grade level. She provided training for the staff, one of which was videotaped and has been used by the SERRC to train others in the IBMFE process. She chairs the Drug Awareness Committee in each of the elementary buildings, facilitates self-esteem groups, provides parent training on techniques that address academic and behavioral issues, provides parent training on ADHD, and teaches tennis to students competing in Special Olympics. In addition, Janet has made a commitment to her profession, both regionally and at the state level. She was responsible for starting the KAASP newsletter, the Repsychler, has been the elected representative to OSPA, and has chaired the Fall Conference Committee for six years. Please join with OSPA in applauding the achievements of Janet Brunecz.

The nominee of the Cleveland Association of School Psychologists is Gail Fadel. She is employed by the Warrenville Public School District. She was nominated because of her dedication to the children she serves and to her profession. Gail has been described as the strength of the special education department in her school district. She was instrumental in the success of the Intervention Assistance Teams and the IBMFE Teams, has been key in obtaining behavioral intervention services, and has kept her colleagues abreast of the latest information in the field. She has provided in-service to teachers, parent workshops, and lunch aid training workshops. Gail has mentored practicum and intern students, represented CASP as OSPA, and chaired the Membership committee and served on the Fall conference committee. Gail is noted for her integrity, perseverance, and support for the individual needs of students. Please join with OSPA in recognizing the contributions of Gail Fadel to our profession.

These women demonstrate the variety and quality of skills that are the hallmark of our profession. Their energy and dedication to our profession call upon us to take advantage of the opportunities presented to us everyday. The selection committee was faced with the difficult task of choosing one of these individuals as this year's award recipient. It is with pride that OSPA presents the School Psychologist of the Year Award for 2001 to Janet Brunecz.