The Utah State Office of Education, with support from the Sorenson Legacy Foundation, is pleased to announce the:

2014 SORENSON LEGACY AWARDS *for Excellence in Arts Education*

THE SORENSON LEGACY AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN ARTS EDUCATION will recognize excellence in arts education in Utah's public schools. Children and teenage students need a well-rounded education that addresses the whole child. The study of drama, dance, music, and the visual arts helps students explore realities, relationships, and ideas that cannot be expressed simply in words or numbers. Beverley Taylor Sorenson has worked to ensure the arts as the avenue for students to develop voice, sustain engagement in school, and evoke reflection and response. The arts integrate social-emotional learning through making cultural connections. Research supports the claim that learning in the arts increases learning in other academic areas. In the global economy, creativity is essential. Study of the arts provides a venue for creativity to flourish. As educators have felt pressure to give more and more attention to literacy and numeracy, the arts have been pushed to the background. Through the Sorenson Legacy Foundation and the Utah State Office of Education, these awards will recognize the essential nature of education in the arts for Utah's students and distinguish those educators who embrace the arts with excellence in their practice.

AWARDS

Each recipient will receive a cash award of $2,500 and an artistic award for display, with an additional $2,500 awarded to the recipient's school/district for the purpose of supporting the arts program.

Awards will be given in these categories:

- Elementary Visual Arts Instruction
- Elementary Music Instruction
- Elementary Arts Integration
- Elementary Drama Instruction
- Elementary Dance Instruction

- Secondary Visual Arts Instruction
- Secondary Music Instruction
- Secondary Theatre Instruction
- Secondary Dance Instruction

In addition, a Lifetime Achievement Award will be given for exemplary service in arts education over a career. The recipient of this award will receive $5,000. Finally, $5,000 will be awarded for an exemplary arts program or initiative in a public school or district.

- Lifetime Achievement in Leadership for the Arts
- Exemplary Arts Program or Initiative in a School or District

APPLICATION

Educators and/or public citizens are invited to nominate individuals for the awards in the appropriate categories. Individuals are not permitted to nominate themselves. Applications will include pertinent personal information (name, position, school, etc.), a narrative describing why the nominee is worthy of the award, letters of support, information including release to contact immediate and district supervisors, and artifacts of achievement. Applications will be sent to school principals, parent organization presidents, and district arts coordinators. The application is available for download on the USOE website at www.schools.utah.gov/curr/FineArt/. Applications should be submitted electronically to: **sorensonartsawards@schools.utah.gov.** The deadline for applications is **March 14, 2014.**

AWARD EVENT

Awards will be presented at a formal ceremony including a reception and dinner at an elegant venue in May.

You are encouraged to submit applications for the outstanding arts educators in your district and/or school.

2014
SORENSON LEGACY AWARDS
for Excellence in Arts Education

NOMINATION FORM AND PROCEDURES

Candidate's Name: Position of Candidate:

School's Name and Address:

District's Name and Address:

Direct Supervisor's Name: Telephone Number and E-mail:

Name, Position, and Telephone Number/E-mail of Person Making the Nomination:

AWARD CATEGORY FOR THIS APPLICATION (Please check one):

- ☐ Elementary Visual Arts Instruction
- ☐ Elementary Drama Instruction
- ☐ Elementary Music Instruction
- ☐ Elementary Dance Instruction
- ☐ Elementary Arts Integration

- ☐ Secondary Visual Arts Instruction
- ☐ Secondary Theatre Instruction
- ☐ Secondary Music Instruction
- ☐ Secondary Dance Instruction

- ☐ Lifetime Achievement in Leadership for the Arts
- ☐ Exemplary Arts Program or Initiative in a School or District

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SIX SECTIONS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES:

1. **COVER LETTER** briefly outlining the nomination and contents of the nomination packet (*See page 3.)*
2. **NARRATIVE** of the accomplishments of the candidate and justification for the nomination (*See page 4.)*
3. **RÉSUMÉ** of candidate's accomplishments (*See page 5.)*
4. **VERIFICATION** of good standing in the school/district (*See page 6.)*
5. **LETTERS OF SUPPORT** up to three letters *(Letters should be in PDF form and attached to the submission e-mail. See page 7.)*
6. **ARTIFACT OF ARTISTIC CONTRIBUTION** to the school community: This could be a recording of school performance, pictures of student-made art, listings of programs and/or accomplishments, etc. The purpose of the artifact is to give the selection committee a sense of the actual artistic opportunities afforded to students because of the educator. *(Artifacts should be in PDF form and attached to application e-mail. See page 7.)*

1. COVER LETTER

Briefly outline the nomination and contents of the nomination packet.

2. NARRATIVE

Describe the accomplishments of the candidate and justification for the nomination.

3. RÉSUMÉ of the candidate's accomplishments

4. VERIFICATION FORM

Candidate's Name:

Position:

School/District:

Please respond to the following questions regarding the candidate's performance and standing in the school and district:

1. Please rate the candidate's overall performance over the past three years, 10 being exemplary:

1 2 3	4 5 6 7 8	9 10
Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Exemplary

2. The candidate has been the subject of disciplinary action in the past three years:
   ☐ No ☐ Yes

3. The candidate contributes to the school community in a positive manner:
   ☐ Yes ☐ No

4. The candidate is in good standing in the school/district and would be a good representative of such: ☐ Yes ☐ No

5. Please make any comments that will aid the selection committee in their decision:

5. LETTERS OF SUPPORT

up to three letters *(Letters should be in PDF form and attached to the submission e-mail.)*

6. ARTIFACT OF ARTISTIC CONTRIBUTION

to the school community: This could be a recording of school performance, pictures of student-made art, listings of programs and/or accomplishments, etc. The purpose of the artifact is to give the selection committee a sense of the actual artistic opportunities afforded to students because of the educator. *(Artifacts should be in PDF form and attached to application e-mail.)*

Your Name:
Position:
Telephone number/E-mail:
Signature:

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY BY MARCH 14, 2014.

E-MAIL APPLICATIONS TO:

sorensonartsawards@schools.utah.gov

Questions: CATHY JENSEN
Utah State Office of Education
801.538.7793
cathy.jensen@schools.utah.gov