



The future belongs to the educated

MILKEN EDUCATOR AWARDS

#MilkenAward



“ Winning the Milken Award tells me that I have a chance to impact the lives of students and teachers I’ve never met. While it would be easy to accept the recognition and carry on with life as usual, I feel that by receiving this honor we are being called to help shape the future of education.”

RACHEL WILLIS

2010 GEORGIA MILKEN EDUCATOR

A MESSAGE FROM LOWELL MILKEN



The Education Commission of the States honored Milken Family Foundation Chairman and Co-Founder Lowell Milken with the James Bryant Conant Award for significant individual contributions to American education.

Education is at the heart of nearly everything we value as individuals, as citizens and as productive human beings.

This philosophy and its implementation has been the driving force in our initiatives at the Milken Family Foundation since 1982. Essential to this pursuit is the development and support of an effective and respected teaching profession.

As a nation, we depend on our teachers and principals to produce students and graduates who are not only literate, numerate and conversant in the humanities and sciences, but who are creative, motivated and confident. As a society, we seek to develop young people who are able and willing to think independently and act with integrity and compassion.

Education's role as the most important of all professions is a message that the public should hear and understand. It is also a message that our educators need to hear as they strive to maintain high expectations, provide quality instruction, and offer emotional support regardless of the challenges.

The talented educators who teach and prepare students to meet these demands are doing nothing less than laying the foundation for our national security. For whether a school is urban, suburban or rural—whether it represents the most affluent or those most in need—within the course of a school day, research confirms that nothing has more

impact on student learning than the effectiveness of the teacher in the classroom, whether that classroom is in-person or virtual.

In creating the Milken Educator Awards, my goal was to bring to the fore those educators who epitomize achievement, but who also have the potential to make even more profound contributions moving forward. Since presenting our first Awards to one dozen exemplary California educators in 1987, we have seen how focusing the spotlight of recognition on such excellence inspires not only educators, but students and entire communities to new heights of commitment and expectation.

With each new class of Milken Educators, we are reminded that the power and promise of education must be replenished from generation to generation if we are to sustain our course as a democracy with opportunities for all. In a complex and changing world, the watchwords of the Milken Educator Awards ring true:

The future belongs to the educated!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lowell Milken". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lowell Milken

*Chairman and Co-Founder,
Milken Family Foundation*

*Chairman and Founder,
National Institute for Excellence in Teaching*



“ The Milken Educator Award presentation was a surprise for us all. My colleagues and students had the chance to hear my story and to learn that I was once a statistic—raised by a single parent, living in poverty—but through continued educational opportunities, I was able to transform and impact my life in a positive way. My students realized that we are more alike than different.”

DR. TIFFANY TYNES CURRY
2016 OHIO MILKEN EDUCATOR
TRANSFORMATION COACH
COLUMBUS CITY SCHOOLS

THE MILKEN EDUCATOR AWARDS

TOUCHING MINDS AND HEARTS

Since 1987, more than two million students have experienced that special day when an educator was surprised with a \$25,000 Award, hailed as a celebrity, and showered with attention from students, colleagues, VIPs, media and the community. And while circumstances during the 2021–22 school year may at times prevent large in-person assemblies, the recognition of greatness in education will continue with more passion and purpose than ever!

Unlike most teacher recognition programs, the Milken Educator Awards have no formal nomination or application process. Candidates are sourced through a confidential selection process and then reviewed by blue ribbon panels appointed by state departments of education. Those most exceptional are recommended for the Award, with final approval by the Milken Family Foundation.

The surprise announcements are made before cheering students, respected colleagues, distinguished officials, the media—and a stunned new Milken Educator. In a moment's time, these unsung heroes gain a significant, unrestricted financial prize of \$25,000 and experience the unfamiliar but well-deserved acclaim and acknowledgment they rightly merit.

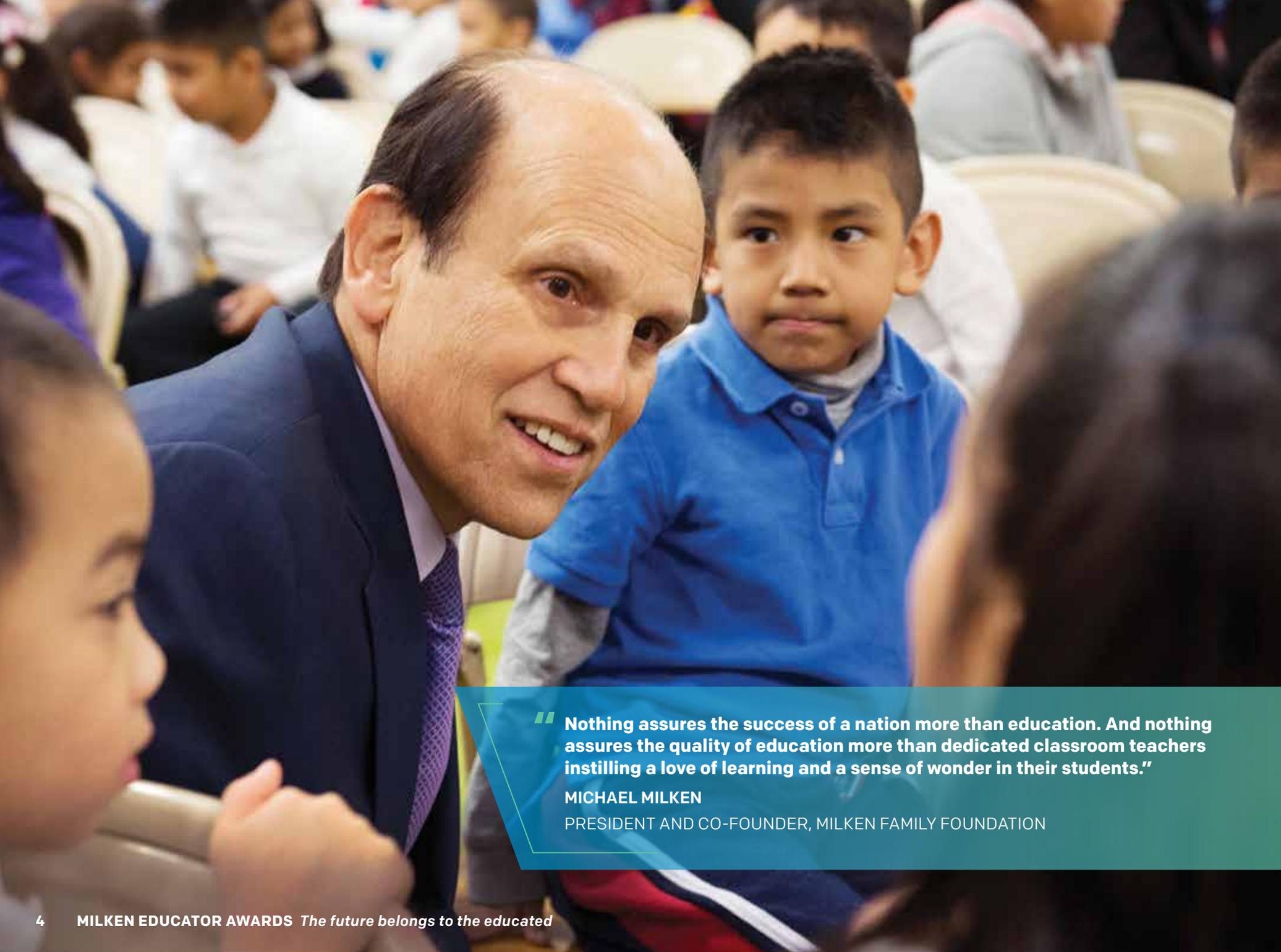
Media multiplies the message of the pivotal role that talented educators play in student achievement. News stories across all forms of media herald the inspiration and contributions of these newly discovered role models in education. These stories catch the attention of communities young and old, voters and policymakers alike.



“ When we recognize excellence in education in a meaningful way, we create the opportunity to elevate this critical profession. The Milken Educator Award provides a national platform to celebrate the men and women tasked with the awesome responsibility of shaping the world one student at a time. Kansas is proud to partner with the Milken Educator Award to recognize these outstanding educators.”

DR. RANDY WATSON

KANSAS COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION



“ Nothing assures the success of a nation more than education. And nothing assures the quality of education more than dedicated classroom teachers instilling a love of learning and a sense of wonder in their students.”

MICHAEL MILKEN

PRESIDENT AND CO-FOUNDER, MILKEN FAMILY FOUNDATION

HELPING TEACHERS AND STUDENTS REACH THEIR POTENTIAL

“ Milken Educators point to their Award as a pivotal professional milestone. They understand that encompassed in this recognition is the responsibility to grow as a leader at and beyond the school level. Encouraged and supported, these outstanding educators discover a renewed passion and purpose as they stretch their professional practices and policy influence to ever-higher levels.

As a 1994 recipient from Indiana, I know firsthand the value I placed on colleagues I met first in my Indiana network and then across the country. To this day, these interactions continue to recharge my batteries and remind me of the importance of our work and why we chose to be educators: to be the catalyst and guide that helps all students reach their potential.”

DR. JANE FOLEY

1994 INDIANA MILKEN EDUCATOR

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, MILKEN EDUCATOR AWARDS





GOALS

Outstanding educators who continue to learn are essential to the fostering of student growth, the improvement of schools, and the enhancement of the education profession. Hence, the goals of the Milken Educator Awards are to:

- ✓ Honor and reward outstanding K–12 educators for the quality of their teaching, their professional leadership, their engagement with families and the community, and their potential for even greater contributions to the healthy development of children.
- ✓ Focus public attention on the importance of excellent educators.
- ✓ Encourage able, caring and creative people to choose the challenge, service and adventure of teaching as a career.
- ✓ Create national and state networks that:
 - Foster the active professional development and career enhancement of Milken Educators and other professionals.
 - Encourage Milken Educators to help shape the educational policies that influence their classrooms and schools.
- ✓ Engage nonprofit, business and policy partners in assisting Milken Educators and in supporting policies that advance education.

“ As educators, we shape the world. In order to do so, we must continuously be lifelong learners ourselves. Those who are educated will have the unique ability to continue to break down barriers, find cures, achieve great success in their profession and ultimately impact the lives of those around them. Education is truly power.”

DESI NESMITH

2014 CONNECTICUT MILKEN EDUCATOR

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION
FOR ACADEMICS & INNOVATION

CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION



THE CRITERIA

The criteria for the selection of outstanding elementary and secondary teachers, principals and specialists as Milken Educators include all of the following:

- ✓ Exceptional educational talent as evidenced by effective and innovative instructional practices and student learning results in the classroom and school.
- ✓ Exemplary educational accomplishments and leadership beyond the classroom that provide models of excellence for the profession.
- ✓ Individuals whose contributions to education are largely unheralded yet worthy of the spotlight.
- ✓ Early- to mid-career educators who offer strong long-range potential for professional and policy leadership.
- ✓ Engaging and inspiring presence that motivates and impacts students, colleagues and the community.



“ I was quite young, having just started my seventh year of teaching, when I received this awesome, unexpected and life-changing Award. My first response was, ‘They must think I’m doing something really great, so I’d better get started.’

I used the Award money to earn my master’s degree, which launched my career into administration. Many doors opened because of my association with the Milken Family Foundation, and I have had an amazing journey.”

DR. ANGIE BESENDORFER

1996 MISSOURI MILKEN EDUCATOR
REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT AND CHANCELLOR
WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY -
MISSOURI

NATIONAL MILKEN EDUCATOR FORUM

A professional highlight of receiving the Milken Educator Award takes place annually as the newest class of Milken Educators comes together to meet and be inspired by fellow Award recipients, as well as “veteran” Milken Educators whose accomplishments continue to impress. Recipients share experiences, techniques and accomplishments while developing bonds that last a lifetime.

During sessions with national policymakers and education leaders, Milken Educators learn how to cultivate their impact beyond the classroom and to advance educational excellence at state and national levels. Most importantly, the Forum helps Milken Educators articulate their passions and develop their “voice” into leadership roles.

MILKEN EDUCATOR NETWORK

Cultivating Effective Leadership and Education Reform

The Milken Educator Award’s visibility and reputation results in unlimited opportunities for educators to improve education from local to international levels. New recipients join the Milken Educator Network, a group of more than 2,800 distinguished professionals whose expertise serves as a valuable resource to fellow educators, legislators, school boards and others shaping the future of education.

The Milken Educator Network fosters effective leadership and education reform through its state and national engagement. Network meetings, discussion forums, national gatherings, webinars and other experiences promote collegiality and enhance communication among education stakeholders. During the COVID pandemic, this Network served as an invaluable link as Milken Educators across America came together for professional development and moral support with dozens of Zoominars as well as one-on-one mentoring. The robust MEA *Connections* blog explored obstacles and opportunities both professional and personal. A growing camaraderie among educators became a silver lining to pandemic challenges. Educators transformed challenges into opportunities for the future.



“ **No one goes into teaching for recognition. You go into teaching because you love children and have hope for our future generation. Getting the Milken Award has pushed me to accept new opportunities and challenges that I would never have attempted before. My students and my teaching are better for it.”**

EMILY CALDARELLI

2016 RHODE ISLAND MILKEN EDUCATOR
5TH GRADE TEACHER

LOWELL MILKEN CENTER FELLOW



“ While the Award money is indeed a benefit, the lasting thing is the public recognition, the validation of excellence and the opportunity to join a national network.”

LOWELL MILKEN

CHAIRMAN AND CO-FOUNDER, MILKEN FAMILY FOUNDATION



STATE NETWORKS

Across the country, Milken Educators...

CELEBRATE

Hawaii Milken Educators

Aloha State Award recipients from years past travel from the neighboring islands to take part in the surprise notifications. Their collective support sheds light on the professional possibilities awaiting the newest members of the Milken Educator family. A special highlight is an annual event to honor the new recipient and present mini-grants to early-career teachers. In 2021, the Hawaii Milken Educators formed their own 501(c)3 to expand their activities and influence, under the banner of the Hawaii Foundation for Educational Excellence.

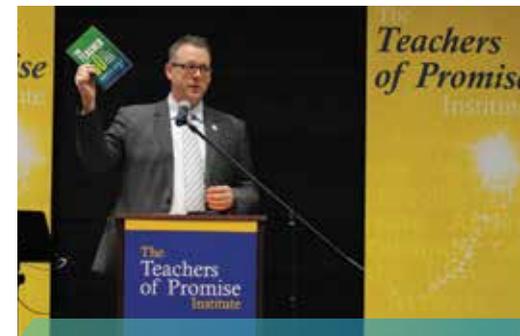


ELEVATE

Virginia Teachers of Promise

Inspired by the Milken Educator Awards, in 2001 the Virginia Milken Educator Network established three goals: celebrate the teaching profession in Virginia; elevate the status of the profession; and activate both future and practicing educators to pursue excellence. Three years later, the Teachers of Promise Institute (www.teachersofpromise.com) debuted with an annual two-day event designed to inspire and inform future teachers who demonstrate potential for classroom excellence.

To date, over 3,000 future teachers from two dozen Virginia college and university schools of education have been recognized as Teachers of Promise. More than 100 master educators from across the nation—many of them Milken Educators—have served as mentors and presenters. The Institute is funded by the Teachers of Promise Foundation, a 501(c)(3) established by Wade Whitehead, VA '00, in 2010. Over \$1,000,000 has been raised in support. Wade serves as executive director with Stephanie Bishop, VA '01, and Laura Marshall, VA '08, as co-directors.



“ We are identifying and honoring the next generation of great teachers and are working to advance their understanding of what teaching and learning really are. Truly they are our last, best hope for navigating the astounding potential hidden in our schools.”

WADE WHITEHEAD

2000 VIRGINIA MILKEN EDUCATOR

5TH GRADE TEACHER

PRESIDENT, TEACHERS OF PROMISE
FOUNDATION

ACTIVATE

Milken Friends Forever

Milken Educators know instantly that the Award is an honor. It is also a responsibility with opportunities and expectations to grow as a leader in the profession. Recipients are challenged to be teacher leaders—role models who use their example, voice and influence in schools and diverse settings far beyond their campus. But they are not left on their own to meet these expectations.

Freshmen and veteran Milken Educators are invited to participate in a one-of-a-kind partnership between the two called Milken Friends Forever (MFFs). Through focused communication, along with personalized support and coaching, veteran Milken Educators assist their MFFs in determining how, when and where they will “Elevate” to improve their own instructional and/or professional practices or “Activate” to explore, prepare and serve in leadership roles that influence practice and policy of others.

New and veteran Milken Educators become thought partners with common qualities of passion, excellence and drive. They connect as needed through monthly calls, webinars and Zoom meetings to determine priorities, set goals, outline strategies and set timelines. Deep professional relationships provide an atmosphere of trust to discuss professional activities, offer feedback, share areas of expertise, and build bridges among their nationally recognized colleagues within the vast Milken Educator Network.

What has transpired is that Milken Educators are growing and leading at an exponential rate. By impacting teachers and students across our nation, they strengthen the legacy of our motto: “The future belongs to the educated.”



“ **Instead of the typical mentor-mentee model that assumes the mentor is the sage, Milken Friends Forever recognizes the rewards the veteran Milken Educator receives from being paired with a new Milken Educator. It is such a gift to have relationships with other incredible educators across the country... especially when we have opportunities to reimagine education together.**”

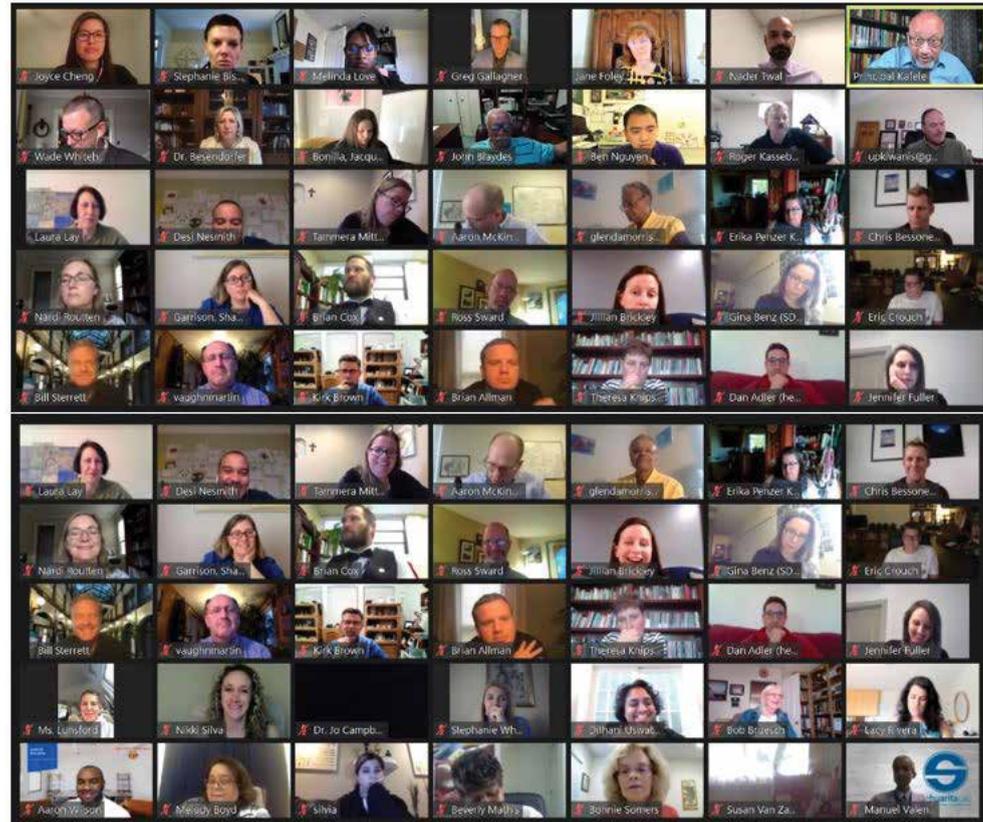
DILHANI J. USWATTE, ED.D.

2009 ALABAMA MILKEN EDUCATOR
NATIONAL DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPAL

Activating Milken Educators

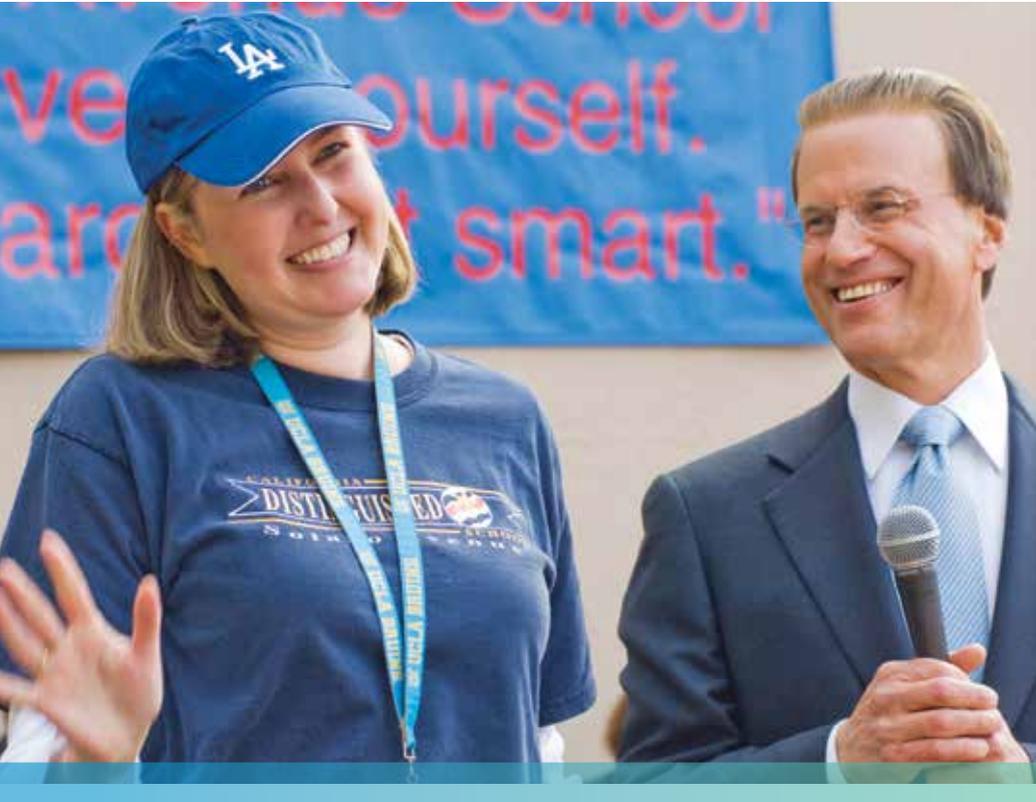
Individually, Milken Educators are exemplary. Activating Milken Educators (AME) intends to capitalize on the force of what Milken Educators can accomplish collectively. AME promotes collaboration among Milken Educators to target topics intended to attract, retain, motivate and develop teacher effectiveness in their states, by designing programs and solutions aligned to the Milken Educator Awards' mission to Celebrate, Elevate, Activate.

Eight Milken Educator Networks—Alabama, Indiana, Kansas, Florida, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina and West Virginia—are involved in phase one of planning state-wide projects for AME. Network planning meetings focus on developing a strong purpose for projects shaped to the needs of states. Projects have relevance collectively for the Network and individually to Milken Educators. The goal is to take AME to Milken Educators across America.



MILKEN EDUCATORS AS LEADERS

The Milken Educator Award is an ongoing relationship that provides recipients with additional resources and opens up a world of opportunities.



“ I vividly remember Lowell Milken at my notification telling me that he expected great things from me. I recall him saying that this Award was being given for what I was going to do to make a positive difference in education. I took that to heart! I will remember that day forever because I suddenly had an entire ‘family’ who believed that I had the ability to make a difference. That is extremely powerful.”

SHANNON GARRISON

2008 CALIFORNIA MILKEN EDUCATOR

4TH AND 5TH GRADE TEACHER

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT GOVERNING BOARD, 2010–2018

While continuing in her role as a classroom teacher, Shannon was one of three educators on the National Assessment Governing Board, which sets policy for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), also known as “the Nation’s Report Card.” She was reappointed for a second term in 2014 and chaired the Assessment Development Committee for six of her eight years on the Board.

Throughout the years, Milken Educators have assumed the challenges and responsibilities of leadership, frequently earning new accolades along the way. The recent achievements listed below are but a sampling of the thousands of leadership roles undertaken to strengthen education in its many forms.

STATE CHIEF SCHOOL OFFICERS

Dr. Michael Johnson, 2008 Alaska Milken Educator, Commissioner of Education and Early Development for the State of Alaska

Pender Makin, 2001 Maine Milken Educator, Commissioner, Maine Department of Education

STATE LEGISLATORS

Dr. Carrie Buck, 2008 Nevada Milken Educator, Nevada State Senator

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT GOVERNING BOARD

Nardi Routten, 2014 Florida Milken Educator, Board Member

STATE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION: MILKEN EDUCATORS IN KEY ROLES

Bruce DuPlanty, 1999 Arizona Milken Educator, Director of Certification and Outreach, Arizona Department of Education

Desi Nesmith, 2014 Connecticut Milken Educator, Deputy Commissioner of Education for Academics & Innovation, Connecticut State Department of Education

Dewey Gottlieb, 2003 Hawaii Milken Educator, Mathematics Resource Teacher, Hawaii Department of Education

Aaron McKinnon, 2009 Idaho Milken Educator, Science Coordinator, Idaho State Department of Education

Deborah Grinnage-Pulley, 2003 Maryland Milken Educator, Executive Director, Maryland Department of Education

Rich Meserve, 2009 Maine Milken Educator, Director, School and Student Supports, Maine Department of Education

Michelle Ryan, 2015 Massachusetts Milken Educator, Associate Commissioner at the Kaleidoscope Collective for Learning, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Mark Wagner, 1992 North Dakota Milken Educator, Assistant State Director, North Dakota Career and Technical Education

Angela Mansfield, 2002 Minnesota Milken Educator, Teacher Effectiveness Specialist, Minnesota Department of Education

Dixie Grupe, 1996 Missouri Milken Educator, Director of Social Studies, Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Dr. Jacquelyn Sampsell, 1999 Mississippi Milken Educator, Science Content Specialist, Mississippi Department of Education

Tonya Breland, 2006 New Jersey Milken Educator, Director, Office of Professional Development, New Jersey Department of Education

Beverly Plein, 2003 New Jersey Milken Educator, Social Studies Coordinator, New Jersey Department of Education

Katarina Sandoval, 2003 New Mexico Milken Educator, Deputy Secretary, New Mexico Public Education Department

Erika Klose, 2017 West Virginia Milken Educator, K–12 Technology Integration Coordinator for STEM and Computer Science, West Virginia Department of Education

Dr. Vaughn G. Rhudy, 2003 West Virginia Milken Educator, Executive Director, West Virginia Department of Education

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Catherine Payne, 1995 Hawaii Milken Educator, Hawaii State Board of Education

STATES HONOR NEW MILKEN EDUCATORS

An important and unique feature of the Milken Educator Award is state-level recognition during which the Chief State School Officer presents the signature Award obelisk. These special ceremonies can take place at state board meetings, governor's mansions, legislative sessions, conferences and awards banquets.



Brian Allman, 2019 West Virginia Milken Educator, celebrated at the Governor's Mansion after addressing the State Board of Education.



Susan Moreno, 2019 Texas Milken Educator and Family honored by the Texas State Board of Education.

AFFILIATED INITIATIVES IN EDUCATION



MILKEN CENTER
for ADVANCING the
AMERICAN DREAM

The Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream (MCAAD) opened virtually in spring 2020, with a mission to expand access to education, health and economic freedom, and to empower an entrepreneurial mindset that takes full advantage of opportunity.

The highly anticipated 2023 grand opening of the American Dream Visitor Center on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C., will feature immersive exhibits, moving stories, contests and productive dialogue aimed at solutions and actions.

“ While no two American Dream stories are the same, many have common themes: overcoming adversity, uprooting from your home, generational sacrifice, grit in the face of hardship, resilience, a lucky break, help at the moment it was needed, an inspirational teacher or mentor, access to education that opened up new perspectives and opportunities, and sometimes, an innovative idea destined to change the way we live. And these dreams rely on the ideals underpinning the founding of America: that all people are created equal, that we should govern ourselves through democracy, that everyone is equal in the eyes of the law, and that the circumstances of our birth should not limit our aspirations in life.”

DR. KERRY MURPHY HEALEY

PRESIDENT, MILKEN CENTER FOR ADVANCING
THE AMERICAN DREAM



www.mcaad.org

DEPARTMENT OF
THE TREASURY

EXECUTIVE OFFICE
BUILDING

THE WHITE HOUSE



FREEDMAN'S BANK



MCAAD highlights Milken Educators for their contributions to realizing human potential.

EDUCATION AND THE EDUCATOR

MCAAD is built on four pillars, the strength of which propels realization of the American Dream for individuals, communities and nations. The pillar Education and the Educator is epitomized by Milken Educators, indeed every educator who inspires and instills the knowledge, skills, talents and perseverance to overcome challenges and become productive citizens. Universal access to high-quality, relevant education may be the most fundamental element of keeping the American Dream alive for millions across the world.



A Milken Educator Dream Team composed of co-leaders Dr. Jane Foley (IN '94) and Stephanie Bishop (VA '01), together with content specialists in English Language Arts and Social Studies Lauren Jensen (NY '15), John Lary (LA '15), Michelle

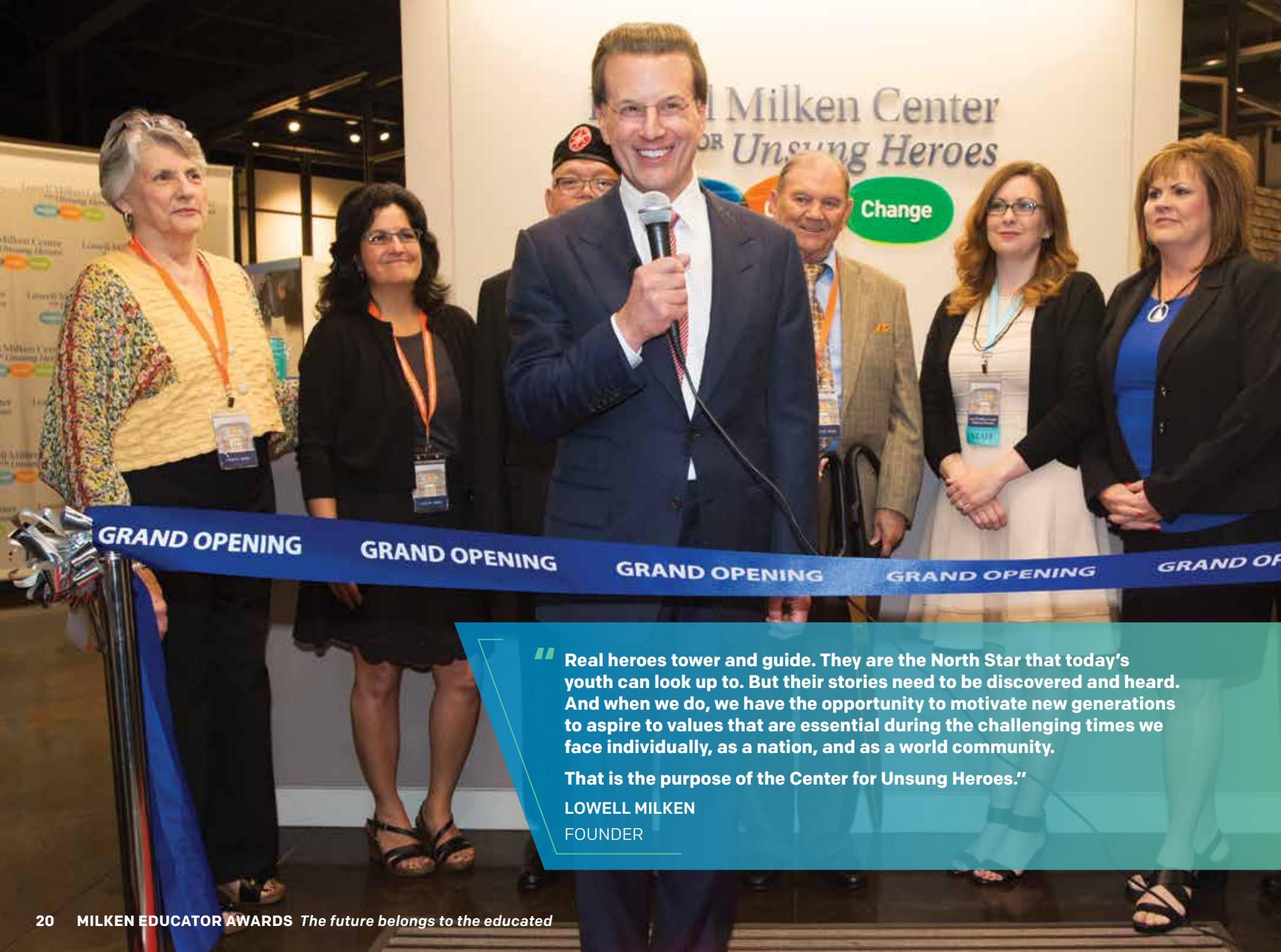
Ryan (MA '15), Nader Twal (CA '03), Kathleen Vasquez (CA '03) and Wade Whitehead (VA '00) were honored to assist MCAAD in creating its first competition. *I, Too, Am the Dream*. The contest challenged rising high school seniors to ENGAGE students in describing dynamic stories about the American Dream, REIMAGINE an inclusive and evolving vision, and drive a bold national conversation to ADVANCE the American Dream for themselves and others. (See mcaad.org/itooamthedream to read the winning entries.)



“ As a black female educator who was the first in my immigrant family to graduate from a four-year college, and having spent most of my teaching career serving predominantly black and brown children, I was focused on leveraging and inviting student voices from all backgrounds [to express their thoughts with] *I, Too, Am the Dream.*”

MICHELLE RYAN

2015 MASSACHUSETTS MILKEN EDUCATOR



Lowell Milken Center
FOR Unsung Heroes

Change

GRAND OPENING GRAND OPENING GRAND OPENING GRAND OPENING GRAND OPENING

“ Real heroes tower and guide. They are the North Star that today’s youth can look up to. But their stories need to be discovered and heard. And when we do, we have the opportunity to motivate new generations to aspire to values that are essential during the challenging times we face individually, as a nation, and as a world community.

That is the purpose of the Center for Unsung Heroes.”

LOWELL MILKEN
FOUNDER

Lowell Milken Center FOR *Unsung Heroes*

Discover

Create

Change

The Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes (LMC) transforms classrooms and communities through student-driven projects that discover Unsung Heroes from history—individuals who changed the world through their courage and compassion, yet are not found in history books. Established in 2007 as a partnership between Lowell Milken and 1992 Kansas Milken Educator and history teacher Norm Conard, LMC's unique project-based learning approach integrates research, critical thinking and creativity for students and educators across diverse cultures and academic disciplines.

LMC has reached over one million students worldwide via its online projects, educator resources and student competitions. The Fort Scott, Kansas, headquarters has welcomed visitors from over 90 countries. The Hall of Unsung Heroes museum was added in 2016, featuring an inspirational, high-tech space with interactive exhibits and expanded research opportunities. LMC is an initiative of the Lowell Milken Family Foundation.

www.LowellMilkenCenter.org

Unsung Hero (n):

One who created positive change in history by improving the lives of others, and has yet to be recognized for his or her actions.





Unsung Hero Ken Reinhardt and his wife Judy explore the Hall of Unsung Heroes.

LOWELL MILKEN CENTER FELLOWS

The LMC Fellowship attracts top educators from the U.S. and around the world to the historic Fort Scott headquarters. The prestigious, merit-based professional development program focuses on a distinctive discovery process rooted in project-based learning.

“ The stories of unsung heroes discovered, researched and presented by students are engaging, empowering and eye-opening. This fellowship made me want to use my classroom to teach about past heroes and encourage my students to be the heroes we need today!”

JOHN LARY

2015 LOUISIANA MILKEN EDUCATOR

2016 LOWELL MILKEN CENTER FELLOW



“ Through LMC Unsung Hero Projects, my students are exposed to inquiry, innovation and the opportunity to apply 21st-century skills—for example, producing a documentary to share with the world.”

STACEY DONALDSON

2015 LOWELL MILKEN CENTER FELLOW



www.LowellMilkenCenter.org

STUDENT COMPETITIONS

Illustrating its motto to **“Discover–Create–Change,”** LMC holds two annual competitions offering students a total of \$30,000 in cash prizes.

DISCOVERY AWARD

Uncovering and then sharing the impact of an Unsung Hero takes resourcefulness, determination and passion on the part of students. In the process, young people learn invaluable research, communication and life skills. LMC’s Discovery Award offers financial prizes totaling \$15,000 to students in grades 4–12 who produce compelling Unsung Hero Projects. Entries can take the form of a documentary film, performance or website, and must include a process paper.



“ History is the connective tissue between generations. It provides the moral fiber. By uncovering these stories, we hope to instill these values in our own generation and our children’s generation.”

CALEB JOHNSON

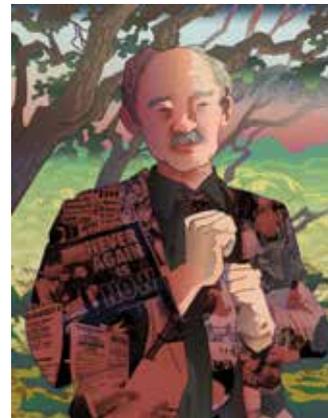
2013 DISCOVERY AWARD GRAND PRIZE
TEAM MEMBER

12TH GRADE, PRINCE GEORGE, VIRGINIA

THE ArtEffect PROJECT

DISCOVER the power to **CREATE** positive **CHANGE** through art.

The ArtEffect Project offers cash prizes totaling \$15,000 to students in grades 6 through 12 from around the world who share the lives and lessons of history’s Unsung Heroes through the visual arts. Students are encouraged to showcase completed projects beyond the classroom walls in order to stimulate positive community impact and inspire social action. Winning artwork is considered for display in the LMC Hall of Unsung Heroes gallery.



ArtEffect Project

2021 GRAND PRIZE

“ILLUMINATING THE UNSEEN”

TAYLOR YINGSHI

12TH GRADE, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

www.LowellMilkenCenter.org

CHILDREN'S BOOK SERIES

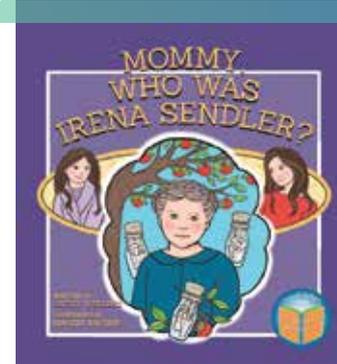
Inspiring children and adults alike with uplifting stories of Unsung Heroes

It's never too early for elementary school students to gain an appreciation of history and character. The LMC Unsung Heroes Children's Book Series by award-winning educator Cathy Werling does just that with stories like these:

- ✓ A teenage Ken Reinhardt stood up against racism during the 1957 integration of Little Rock Central High School.
- ✓ Sergeant Stubby, a stray dog, captured the heart of a soldier and went on to save countless lives during World War I.
- ✓ Andrew Jackson Higgins never gave up on developing the boats that delivered troops to France on D-Day and helped to end World War II.
- ✓ Irena Sendler, a Catholic social worker who rescued hundreds of Jewish children from the Warsaw Ghetto during World War II and was the catalyst for the Lowell Milken Center's creation.

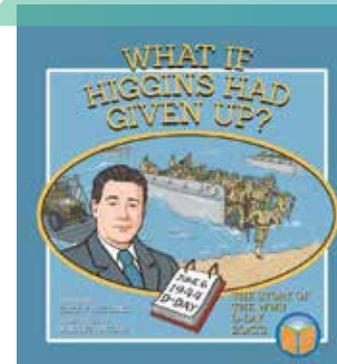
Their actions provide important examples for children as young students discover their own power and responsibility to effect positive change in the world. Each compelling story is complemented by colorful illustrations.

Books are available on the LMC website and major online booksellers.



" I love the story and the colorful illustrations in this beautiful book about Irena Sendler! Every young girl should read this story of a woman who risked her life to save 2,500 children during the Holocaust. It may inspire young girls everywhere to believe in 'the power of one' to change the world."

AMAZON REVIEW



" Truly, boys and girls need to know that to succeed in life, all you need is an idea and an 'I can do this' attitude. Thank you for wanting to bring this positive message to today's next generation."

READER



The Milken Scholars Program was founded in 1989 by Lori and Michael Milken to honor exceptional young men and women based on scholarship, leadership, service, character and triumphs over obstacles. Scholars are graduating high school seniors from New York, Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles County who go through a rigorous nomination and interview process.

Each receives a \$10,000 scholarship, but what makes the program unique is the access to a lifetime of resources, including mentorship throughout their college careers and beyond. The three-day Summit, with presentations by outstanding leaders from diverse fields, allows Scholars to form and renew friendships as they exchange ideas and aspirations. Milken Scholars is a joint initiative of the Milken Family Foundation and the Milken Institute.



“ The Milken Scholarship is so much more than money. It's an unexpected blessing that also pays in connections. Through Milken I am exposed to a network full of like-minded individuals who are looking to support one another on their respective paths. I'm given mentors, career advice and honestly, friends. I'm given a spot in the sorts of places I could never reach alone. This is a line in the sand for my future. And I am truly humbled to have the opportunity.”

NAOMI NESMITH

2020 MILKEN SCHOLAR

BROWN UNIVERSITY

www.MilkenScholars.org



MILKEN SCHOLARS ANNUAL SUMMIT

NAVIGATING A WORLD
IN INNOVATION

“ Whether they become doctors, research scientists, educators, entrepreneurs or diplomats, the common denominator of Milken Scholars is a genuine sense of service.”

MICHAEL MILKEN
FOUNDER, MILKEN SCHOLARS

TEAM

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Lowell Milken

Chairman and Co-Founder

Lawrence Lesser

Senior Vice President, Creative Services

Bonnie Somers

Senior Vice President, Communications

Stephanie Bishop

Vice President, Milken Educator Awards

Michael Milken

President and Co-Founder

Dr. Jane Foley

Senior Vice President, Milken Educator Awards

Joni Milken-Noah

Vice President, Mike's Math Club

Richard Yee

Chief Financial Officer

Richard Sandler

Executive Vice President and Secretary

Ralph Finerman

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A woman with long brown hair, wearing a dark blue blazer over a red and black plaid top, is smiling and holding a blue award plaque. The plaque features a circular seal on the left with the text "KENTUCKY MILKEN EDUCATOR AWARD" around the top and "The future belongs to the educated" in the center. To the right of the seal, the name "Brooke Powers" is written in a gold, cursive font. The background is a blurred blue wall.

“ I know there are big things yet to come for me in the education world, and when people ask me how I changed K-12 education the answer will be easy: The Milken Educator Award first changed me.”

BROOKE POWERS

2017 KENTUCKY MILKEN EDUCATOR

DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING



For inquiries, please contact:

Dr. Jane Foley
Senior Vice President, Milken Educator Awards
Milken Family Foundation
1250 Fourth Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401
Twitter: @Milken_jfoley

Phone: 310-570-4785
Media inquiries: 310-570-4775

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