

# Anton Banko Excellence in Science Teaching Award

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

School District/Bldg. \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

STANYS membership number: \_\_\_\_\_

## Send application to:

STANYS Elementary DAL  
Duane Willsey  
7754 Maxwell Rd.  
Clinton, New York 13323  
Phone: 315-725-9018

## About the Anton Banko Excellence in Science Award for K-6 teachers:

This award will recognize a New York State Grade K-6 teacher of science.

It will provide the winner with the opportunity to attend the Science Teachers Association of New York State (STANYS) Annual Conference in the fall. (Costs of up to \$1500 will be reimbursed, including travel, conference registration, hotel accommodations, etc.) In addition, the winner will receive \$1500 reimbursement for the purchase of science materials for the classroom.

The winner will be recognized during the fall STANYS Annual Conference.

## Award and application information for the Anton Banko Excellence in Science Teaching Award:

1. This award is only open to NYS teachers that are:
  - Current members of the Science Teachers Association of New York State (STANYS) Join STANYS at <http://www.stanys.org>
  - Currently teaching Grades K - 6 at a NYS public or private school
  - Able to demonstrate the ability to engage young children in the study of basic science, as determined by the award criteria.
2. The application must be submitted by mail or fax by June 30<sup>th</sup> with:
  - An essay written about the science concepts taught and how they are taught to young children. The essay must be at least 4 paragraphs in length. Each paragraph should correspond to one of the core ideas and describe how the applicant teaches that core idea to young children:
    - a) life science
    - b) earth science
    - c) physical science
    - d) engineering and technology

- Attach an updated resume' that includes your current teaching assignment.
- Finalists will be requested to provide examples of student work and a letter of recommendation from a school administrator in support of the application.
- Applications received after the deadline or missing the items listed above will be disqualified.

3. Applications, essays, student work, and references will not be returned to award applicants, even if the applicants are disqualified. The applications and all additional materials will become the property of the Science Teachers Association of New York State. Therefore, finalists should not submit original student work without permission from the student's parent or guardian. A copy of student work is adequate.

4. Award finalists will be determined based on preliminary criteria and notified via email or telephone that they are finalists. In the event that a finalist has been contacted three times and has not responded, the individual will be disqualified. All applicants should prepare to be a finalist by obtaining a letter of support from a school administrator and student work examples to support the application **before** the end of the school year.

5. The award winner will be notified by telephone and/or email.

6. Failure to comply with one or any combination of these rules will result in the applicant being disqualified.

7. The Anton Banko award is made through reimbursement. The award winner is notified of the award and then makes all arrangements to attend the conference independently. The award winner will be reimbursed for travel expenses, registration, food, etc. Therefore, all receipts should be kept and a STANYS voucher completed and returned to the STANYS treasurer. The \$1500 award is used for classroom supplies at the awardee's discretion.

Criteria for Judging:

1. Applicants will be evaluated based on:
  - STANYS membership status at time of receipt of application (join STANYS at <http://www.stanys.org>)
  - Teaching position as of June 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Essay contents, including:
    - Minimum of 4 paragraphs
    - Each of the 4 paragraphs should correspond to the core ideas of science (life science, earth science, physical science, and engineering and technology) and describe how the educator teaches that content to young children.
    - The following factors will contribute to the evaluation of the applicant's description of teaching method:
      - a) How well it reflects best practices in elementary science education, as supported by research
      - b) How it demonstrates the engagement of young children in the instruction
      - c) How well it can serve as a model for other educators of young children
2. The applications will be judged by a panel of three (3) judges. The judging panel will be comprised of Dr. William Banko, the award sponsor; Dr. Michael Jabot, SUNY College at Fredonia; and Duane Willsey, STANYS DAL for Elementary Science. Spouses of the judges or members of the judges' immediate families are not eligible to receive the Anton Banko award.
3. The judges will not assign a numerical score to each application. Rather the panel of judges will consult with each other to rank the entries as a whole.
4. From the initial set of applications, three (3) finalists will be determined and notified. The finalists will then submit supporting documents for their application, to include:
  - A letter of recommendation from a school administrator
  - Examples of student work
5. The finalists' submissions will be reviewed and rank ordered by the judges.
6. The award winner will be notified by August 15.
7. Decision of the judges is final, binding, and cannot be appealed.