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Local Teachers Who Foster 21st Century Learning Honored

Seventh annual Celebrate Teachers & Teaching awards program

recognizes outstanding educators

MILWAUKEE, WI (October 17, 2019) – Milwaukee-area teachers were honored tonight for their exemplary work as part of the seventh annual Celebrate Teachers & Teaching awards ceremony, held this year at Concordia University. This year's theme was ***Fostering 21st Century Learning***, and teachers were judged on their ability to be forward-thinking, embrace change and facilitate innovative learning that integrates the use of technology.

Amy Zientek, a science teacher at Greendale High School, was awarded the 2019 Celebrate Teachers & Teaching award. Nine teachers in all were nominated for the 2019 awards. Zientek received a \$1,000 cash award, and the remaining nominees each received a \$100 cash award. They were honored in front of an audience of about 100 people celebrating teachers at Thursday night's event.

"Quite simply, there have been few teachers in my twenty-year administrative career that strive so hard to try new programs, new strategies, and new technologies with her classes and clubs," said Steven Lodes, principal of Greendale High School. "She embodies forward thinking and her ability to conceive, value, and implement change leads to innovative learning experiences for students."

In addition to the educators recognized, Mary Kellner received the 2019 Champion of Education Award. This award recognizes the lifetime achievements of an individual who, through their significant contributions to the field of education, have helped close the achievement gap and warrant the respect of educational thought leaders in our community. Kellner is the president of the Kelben Foundation, a family foundation that supports local educational and child-oriented initiatives.

Sponsors of the 2019 Celebrate Teachers & Teaching event include The Faye McBeath Foundation, The Milwaukee Public Schools Foundation and The Northwestern Mutual Foundation.

For more information, visit marquette.edu/education/education-deans/event or contact Kathleen Kannass, Steering Committee Co-Chair, at 262-243-2209 or Kathleen.Kannass@cuw.edu, or Cynthia Guth, Steering Committee Co-Chair, at 262-243-4342 or Cynthia.Guth@cuw.edu.

Celebrate Teachers and Teaching is an initiative of the Education Deans of Greater Milwaukee (EDGM). The group is comprised of leadership from nine area institutions of higher education, including Alverno College, Cardinal Stritch University, Carroll University, Concordia University Wisconsin, Milwaukee Area Technical College, Wisconsin Lutheran College, Marquette University, Mt. Mary University and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. EDGM aims to leverage the assets of all institutions involved to

support the continuous improvement of PK-21 education in the region, and serve the greater good, especially students in the Milwaukee Metro Area and learners of all types and ages. The awards program is just one of the ways EDGM seeks to uplift the outstanding work of some of Wisconsin's teachers.

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High-resolution photos from Celebrate Teachers and Teaching 2019 are available upon request.