

HELENA

Award Ceremony

THANK YOU
for attending!

February 16-20, 2023
Helena, Montana

WBEA 2022-2023 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Eric Swenson - President, MT
Joshua Fisher - President-Elect, OR
Ariel Peterson - Past President, WA
Cindy Arnzen - Treasurer, ID
Mandy Wichman - Secretary, MT
Chris Liebelt-Garcia - NBEA Director-WBEA Region, AZ

STANDING COMMITTEE DIRECTORS

Joshua Fisher - Awards & Scholarship, OR
Mark Branger - Legislative Liaison, MT
Peter Rustemeyer - Media & Communications, WA
Lynn Keane - Membership, CA
Joey Running - Newsletter, OR

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

ISBE Representative
Joe McClary - NBEA Executive Director
Delayne Havlovic - NBEA President, NE

BOARD MEMBERS

Chris Liebelt-Garcia - Arizona President
Martin Runge- British Columbia President
Lynn Keane - California President
Keith Turner - California President-Elect
Warren Kawano - Hawai'i President
Alicia Ward - Idaho President
Tanner Smith - Idaho President-Elect
Mandy Wichman - Montana President
Jessica Goosen - Montana President-Elect
Terry Price - Nevada President
Joshua Fisher - Oregon President
Kim Bezdek - Oregon President-Elect
Shelly Grant - Washington President



Welcome

**TO THE HEART & HOME
OF TRACK & FIELD**



WBEA 2024

Join us in February 2024 in Eugene, OR as we meet at the WBEA 2024 Conference. Plan to network with like-minded peers, discover the beauty and hospitality of "Track Town USA", attend tours and workshops, and meet new friends while reacquainting with old.

- February 15-19, 2024
- The Graduate - Eugene

Purpose

The purpose of the Awards and Scholarship program is to promote the WBEA Recognition program, Media Awards programs, and the Scholarship program for WBEA and NBEA.

Each year, a call for nominations is requested so that members of WBEA can be nominated and recognized for their outstanding achievements and contributions to business education within the Western Region. The following awards are available for nomination:

- **President's Award**
 - Chosen by the current WBEA President
- **Distinguished Service - Individual**
 - Nominee shall be a business educator and WBEA member
- **Distinguished Service - Company, Representative, Legislator**
 - Nominee is not required to be a member of WBEA
- **Outstanding Business Educator - Elementary/Middle School**
 - Nominee shall be a business educator and WBEA member
- **Outstanding Business Educator - High School**
 - Nominee shall be a business educator and WBEA member
- **Outstanding Business Educator - Postsecondary**
 - Nominee shall be a business educator and WBEA member
- **Outstanding Business Educator - University**
 - Nominee shall be a business educator and WBEA member
- **Outstanding CTSO Advisor**
 - Nominee shall be a business educator and WBEA member
- **Media Awards**
 - Nominee shall be a WBEA member and produce S/T/P newsletters
- **Membership Awards**
 - Nominee shall be a WBEA member and meet S/T/P membership goals



PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Presented by: Eric Swenson, 2022-2023 WBEA President



KAY FUJIMOTO ONO HAWAII

We all know the old adage “You can pick your friends, but you can’t pick your family.” While this may be true in most cases, what happens when your friend is family and when a member of your family is friend? Sometimes, fate steps in and predetermines who will be our friends and who will be our family. This is the case with this year’s President’s Award recipient.

The WBEA President’s Award is an honor bestowed on an individual by the president for dedication and leadership in business education with the main criterion to consider is to choose a person that has helped the WBEA President the most throughout his/her professional career. For this year’s recipient, we did not pick to be friends and we did not pick to be family, it just happened.

Over the years, we have had many great adventures as we crisscrossed across the U.S.A. attending conferences and meetings. Each location brought opportunities to explore and experience the many sights, sounds, and tastes unique to the areas we traveled. There have been countless phone calls, emails, and texts sent and both good and bad, and even some really bad, times shared.

HELENA, MONTANA

- FUN FACTS -

ATTRACTIONS

State Capital (features huge copper dome)
Holter Museum of Art (showcases the area's arts and crafts)
The Original Governor's Mansion (Queen Anne style house)
Last Chance Tour Train
Mansion District (features impressive homes)
Last Chance Gulch

DEMOGRAPHICS

Total Population: 31,212
Average Age: 40
% of People Married: 42.1%
Average Household Size: 2
% of Population w/Bachelor's +: 36%
Median Family Income: \$76,364
Average Commute Time: 12 minutes
Median House Value: \$232,200
% of Population that is German: 23.6%
% of Population that is Irish: 18.6%

CLIMATE

Average Winter Temp: 10-31 F
Average Spring Temp: 31-57 F
Average Summer Temp: 52-83 F
Average Fall Temp: 31-58 F

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Public Schools: 15 (Elementary to High)
Private Schools: 6
Higher Education: 2
Carroll College & University of Montana-Helena College of Technology

S/T/P COMMUNICATION

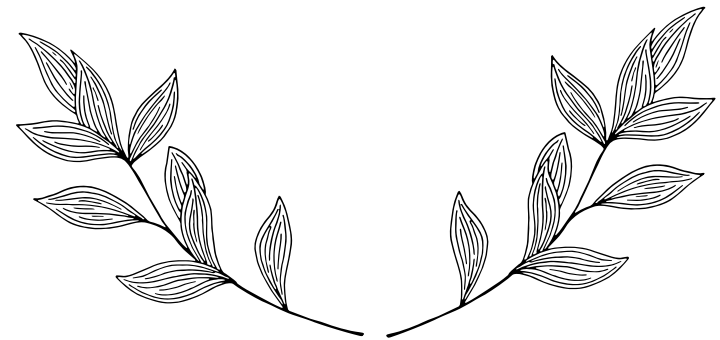
2008-09 Ellen Nagaue, HI
2008-09 Karen Quimoyog, HI
2008-09 Emi Troeger, HI
2008-09 Eric Swenson, MT
2008-09 Sue Van Meter, OR
2009-10 Eric Swenson, MT
2009-10 Robert Bencivenga, NV
2009-10 Pam Weigand, WA
2010-11 Pam Weigand, WA
2010-11 Sylnovie Merchant, CA
2011-12 Sue Van Meter, OR
2011-12 Kim Moody, NV
2011-12 Bobbi Whitney, NV
2011-12 Nancy Buck, CA
2011-12 Linda Snider, CA

2012-13 Stacy Leitner, CA
2012-13 Cheryl Fujii, HI
2012-13 Alan Watts, NV
2013-14 Sue Van Meter, OR
2013-14 Cheryl Fujii, HI
2013-14 Alan Watts, NV
2014-15 Sue Van Meter, OR
2015-16 Sue Van Meter, OR
2015-16 Luke Freeman, CA
2016-17 Sue Van Meter, OR
2016-17 Eric Swenson, MT
2017-18 Sue Van Meter, OR
2018-19 Sue Van Meter, OR
2021-22 Bryan Monson, OR

This individual has played an important part in both my personal and professional life, always advising, encouraging, guiding, and sometimes playing the role of that little voice inside my head. Early in my career, this person helped me to fully understand what it is means to be a Business Education Professional, to be a leader, and to be a friend. They continue to be a source of advice, wisdom, and an ear when you just need to talk.

When I remember sitting together at the WBEA President-elects workshop in 2001 and fast forward to today, our experience and journeys together remind me of the Dr. Seuss book Oh, the Place You'll Go! and its message of encouraging the reader to find the success that lies within, no matter what challenges they face. She has always been there encouraging, helping to work through challenges, and celebrating in the successes.

Therefore, it is my great honor and privilege to present the Western Business Education Association President's Award for 2023 to my friend, to my family, to my ohana, to my Auntie, Mrs. Kay Fujimoto Ono.



**OUTSTANDING BUSINESS EDUCATOR
- HIGH SCHOOL -**



**JODY SANDRU,
MONTANA**

Mrs. Jody Sandru is a member of the Montana Business Education Association and currently teaches business at Twin Bridges High School in Twin Bridges, MT. She has taught young minds since the Fall of 1993, thus celebrating her 30th year in education. To say that Jody is highly involved in her career would be an understatement. She has spent 30 years being involved in the Twin Bridges Federation of Teachers, the last 15 years and the local president. While being a WBEA/NBEA member, Mrs. Sandru has also been a 15-year member of the Journalism Educator's Association and a 20-year member of Montana School Television.

Giving back to her community is a passion of Jody's as she has been the organizer for the Twin Bridges Community Giving Tree for 27 years, organizer of Trick or Treat for the Food Bank for 10 years, and most recently is a member of the Montana Steering Committee for Personal Finance/Economics Graduation Recommendation. Joey Running, fellow teacher, had this to say about Jody, "Mrs. Sandru has become a part of my network of highly-skilled and talented educator from across the nation that serve as my support, resources, and friends in what can seem very isolating in a one-person department."

Co-Founder of Next Gen Personal Finance, Tim Ranzetta also shared this, "Jody consistently impressed us with her passion, her collaboration with other educators, and her creativity in developing activities and lessons that students love."
Nominated by: Joey Running, OR

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
- INDIVIDUAL -**

- 1983-84 Robert J. Thompson, CA
- 1984-85 May Oka, OR
- 1985-86 Dr. H. Robert Stocker, UT
- 1986-87 Dr. Lloyd Bartholome, UT
- 1987-88 Evelyn Schemmel, HI
- 1988-89 Kathleen Richards, UT
- 1989-90 Dr. James L. Young, AZ
- 1990-91 Georgina Seals, OR
- 1991-92 Jeanette Bieber-Moses, MT
- 1992-93 George Borg, WA
- 1993-94 Dr. V. Wayne Klemin, WA
- 1994-95 Jane Thompson, CA
- 1995-96 Dr. Ross Byrd, WA
- 1996-97 Ginny Held, OR
- 1997-98 Dr. Colleen Vawdrey, UT
- 1998-99 Sue Trautwein, OR
- 1999-00 Bernice Collins, CA
- 2000-01 Mary Ann Lammers, OR

- 2001-02 Helen Humbert, WA
- 2002-03 Pauline Newton, CA
- 2003-04 Dr. Alden A. Talbot, UT
- 2004-05 Marty McFarland, CA
- 2005-06 Rita Figlenski, WA
- 2006-07 Kay Fujimoto Ono, HI
- 2007-08 Joseph B. McFarland, CA
- 2009-10 Eric Swenson, MT
- 2010-11 Jean Matsui Hara, HI
- 2012-13 Kris Sheets, AZ
- 2013-14 Jackie Floetke, WA
- 2014-15 Eileen J. Wascisin, WA
- 2015-16 Ken Kuhn, BC
- 2016-17 Chris Liebelt-Garcia, AZ
- 2017-18 Roietta Fulgham, CA
- 2018-19 Kristina Yamada, UT
- 2021-22 Ariel Peterson, WA

**ROBERT J. THOMPSON
MEMBERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT**

- 1986-87 Eileen Aaberge, MT
- 1987-88 Sheila Crosmer, MT
- 1988-89 Dr. Robert Gryder, AZ
- 1989-90 Dee Hartman, ID
- 1990-91 Nevada
- 1991-92 Mary O Fury, WA
- 1992-93 Clair Schenk, UT
- 1993-94 Sue Van Meter, OR
- 1994-95 Clair Schenk, UT
- 1995-96 Arlinda Carlson, MT
- 1996-97 Arlinda Carlson, MT
- 1997-98 Arlinda Carlson, MT
- 1998-99 Jill Meyer, WA
- 1999-00 Julie O'Dell, MT
- 2000-01 Julie O'Dell, MT
- 2001-02 Denise Carlson, MT

- 2002-03 Stanley May, HI
- 2003-04 Eric Swenson, MT
- 2004-05 Lue Ann Amburn, NV
- 2005-06 Jean Matsui Hara, HI
- 2006-07 Eric Swenson, MT
- 2007-08 Michael Haney, NV
- 2008-09 Roy Davis, ID
- 2009-10 Kristen Stuart, NV
- 2010-11 Linda Cotton, MT
- 2011-12 Linda Cotton, MT
- 2012-13 Linda Colton, MT
- 2015-14 Sherry Stidhum, NV
- 2014-15 Jenny Miller, ID
- 2015-16 Jenny Miller, ID
- 2017-18 Shauna Williams, ID
- 2018-19 Shauna Williams, ID

**OUTSTANDING BUSINESS EDUCATOR
- POSTSECONDARY (CC/2YR) -**

- 1990-91 Carol Hinricher, MT
- 1991-92 Joan Ryan, OR
- 1992-93 Janece Connor, WA
- 1993-94 Mary O. Fury, WA
- 1994-95 Colleen Vawdrey, UT
- 1995-96 Mary Ann Lammers, OR
- 1996-97 Karen Jolly, OR
- 1997-98 Jean Hara, HI
- 1998-99 Kyle Saunders, UT
- 1999-00 Wayne Franks, OR
- 2000-01 Jane Thompson, CA
- 2001-02 Carol Jordan, OR
- 2002-03 Kay Fujimoto Ono, HI
- 2003-04 Patricia Lewis, OR
- 2005-06 Della Kunimune, HI
- 2006-07 Roy Kamida, HI

- 2007-08 Michale J. Batali, WA
- 2009-10 Joyce T. Porter, UT
- 2010-11 Twila Lehman, OR
- 2011-12 Lance Wrzesinski, WA
- 2012-13 Roietta Fulgham, CA
- 2013-14 Linda Snider, CA
- 2014-15 Nancy Noe, WA
- 2014-15 Theresa M. Savarese, CA
- 2015-16 Robert "Bobby" Yamane, HI
- 2015-16 Joanne Osgood, CA
- 2016-17 Anne Chung, HI
- 2017-18 Dr. Rhoda Ann-Michaux James, CA
- 2018-19 Patti Sessions, OR
- 2019-20 Randy Nordell, CA
- 2021-22 Dr. Lavonne Slaton, CA

**OUTSTANDING BUSINESS EDUCATOR
- COLLEGIATE/UNIVERSITY -**

- 1990-91 Lloyd Bartholome, UT
- 1992-93 V. Wayne Klemin, WA
- 1993-94 H. Robert Stocker, UT
- 1994-95 Billie Herrin, MT
- 1995-96 Margaret Beilke, WA
- 1996-97 Doris Williamson, UT
- 1997-98 Robert Gryder, AZ
- 1998-99 Alden Talbot, UT
- 1999-00 Pamela Weigand, WA
- 2000-01 Ross Byrd, WA

- 2001-02 Dennis LaBonty, UT
- 2002-03 Greg Colf, UT
- 2003-04 Colleen Vawdrey, UT
- 2004-05 Allyson Saunders, UT
- 2005-06 Joseph Otto, CA
- 2008-09 Cynthia O. Krebs, UT
- 2010-11 Dennis Garner, UT
- 2011-12 Diana J. Green, UT
- 2018-19 Patti Sessions, OR
- 2018-19 Dr. Brenda Jacobsen, ID

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
- COMPANY/REPRESENTATIVE -**

- 2018-19 Adobe Systems, Inc.
- 2021-22 Mike Oechsner, WA FBLA

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
- INDIVIDUAL -**



**NANCY BACKLUND,
CALIFORNIA**

Having served business education for over 30 years, 14 at Turlock High School and 24 at Modesto Junior College, Mrs. Backlund brings dedication, passion, and commitment to the betterment of business education. She has served in multiple capacities for CBEA and WBEA over her career. Most recently, she has served on the WBEA Board as Membership Director and assisted in planning and organizing the 2020 WBEA Conference held in Torrance, CA.

Beyond the above activities for WBEA, she has been extremely active in CBEA:

- Membership Director, 2014 to Present
- President-Elect, 2017
- President, 2018-2021
- Past-President, 2022
- Conference Co-Chair, 2020

Lynn Keane had this to share about Nancy, "Nancy provides significant commitment and timely service, leadership, and guidance through various CBEA Board positions, including holding the position of President for four years." Furthermore, "Nancy spearheaded the First Thursday Webinar series, which consistently delivered professional development to CBEA members during the pandemic." In 1998, Mrs. Backlund was the FBLA Advisor the Year and in 2019 she coordinated the Central Section CBEA Workshop.

Nominated by: Lynn Keane, CA

WBEA PAST PRESIDENTS

1950-51 Theodore Yerian, OR
1951-52 Marsdon Sherman, CA
1952-53 Evan Croft, UT
1953-54 Eugene Kosy, WA
1954-55 Edwin Swanson, CA
1955-56 Verner Dotson, WA
1956-57 Jessie Black, UT
1957-58 Mary Alice Wittenberg, CA
1958-59 Clisby Edlefsen, ID
1959-60 Ralph Asmus, AZ
1960-61 Edith Smith, OR
1961-62 Laura Lynn Straub, CA
1962-63 Frances Brown, WA
1963-64 Dean Peterson*/
G.W. (Jim) Maxwell, CA
1964-65 John Lin, CA
1965-66 Leonard Carpenter, OR
1966-67 George Dunn, AZ
1967-68 Robert Rose, ID
1968-69 Ted Ivarie, UT
1969-70 Ray Christopherson, WA
1970-71 Robert Thompson, CA
1971-72 Ted Stoddard, UT
1972-73 Howard Jones, OR
1973-74 John Chrape, HI
1974-75 Daniel Hertz, MT
1975-76 James Manos, CA
1976-77 Lohnie Boggs, AZ
1977-78 Mona Noble, ID
1978-79 Ed Goodin, NV
1979-80 Kenneth McDonald, WA
1980-81 Georgialee Smithpeters, WA
1981-82 G.W. (Jim) Maxwell, CA
1982-83 May Oka, OR
1983-84 H. Robert Stocker, UT
1984-85 Lloyd W. Bartholome, UT
1985-86 Evelyn Schemmel, HI

1986-87 Jeanette Bieber-Moses, MT
1987-88 James Young, AZ
1988-89 Mike Hovey, ID
1989-90 Kathleen Richards, UT
1990-91 Ross Byrd, WA
1991-92 Jane Thompson, CA
1992-93 Colleen Vawdrey, UT
1993-94 Sue Trautwein, OR
1994-95 George Borg, WA
1995-96 William (Bill) Neal, HI
1996-97 Billie Herrin, MT
1997-98 James Young, AZ
1998-99 Roger Rankin, ID
1999-00 Mary Ann Lammers, OR
2000-01 Helen Humbert, WA
2001-02 Pauline Newton, CA
2002-03 Alden Talbot, UT
2003-04 Nancy Noe, OR
2004-05 Joseph McFarland, CA
2005-06 Jean Matsui Hara, HI
2006-07 Julie O'Dell, MT
2007-08 Kris Sheets, AZ
2008-09 Angie Neal, ID
2009-10 Eileen Wascisin, WA
2010-11 Jackie Floetke, WA
2011-12 Roietta Fulgham, CA
2012-13 Greg Colf, UT
2013-14 Christy Ekroth, OR
2014-15 Ken Kuhn, BC
2015-16 Kay Fujimoto Ono, HI
2016-17 Elaine Stedman, MT
2017-18 Dona Orr, ID
2018-19 Chris Liebelt-Garcia, AZ
2019-20 Karen O'Connor, CA
2020-21 Ariel Peterson, WA
2021-22 Ariel Peterson, WA

CAREER & TECHNICAL STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISORS

2006-07 Jean Hyde, WA
2007-08 Colleen Vawdrey, UT
2008-09 Kathleen O'Brien, ID
2009-10 Alden A. Talbot, UT
2010-11 Marjorie Carlilie, UT
2011-12 Lucille Brizzee, UT
2012-13 Laura Hilzendeger, WA

2013-14 Dr. Brenda Jacobsen, ID
2014-15 Scott E. Anderson, MT
2016-17 Warren Kawano, HI
2017-18 Terri King, WA
2018-19 Roger Beck, WA
2020-21 Peter Rustemeyer, WA

OUTSTANDING BUSINESS EDUCATOR - MIDDLE SCHOOL / JUNIOR HIGH -

1992-93 Cindi Sorensen, WA
1993-94 Linda James, UT
1994-95 Colleen Richardson, UT
1998-99 Janet Leatham, UT
1999-00 Marie Mortensen, UT

2001-02 Jackie Floetke, WA
2004-05 Tara Haslam, UT
2012-13 Julie G. Thorngren, UT
2013-14 Keith C. Hannah, WA

OUTSTANDING BUSINESS EDUCATOR - SECONDARY -

1990-91 Kathleen Richards, UT
1991-92 Cynthia Denton, MT
1992-93 Rita Figlenski, WA
1993-94 Marilyn Bennion, UT
1994-95 Linda Montanaro, AZ
1995-96 Valerie Abbott, OR
1996-97 Arlinda Carlson, MT
1997-98 Joyce Johnson, AZ
1998-99 George Borg, WA
1999-00 Mark Branger, MT
2000-01 Susan Boothe, UT
2001-02 Christi Pilcher, MT
2002-03 Joe McFarland, CA
2003-04 Pauline Newton, CA
2004-05 Teresa Wood, OR
2005-06 Toni C. Simmons, UT

2006-07 Eileen Wascisin, WA
2007-08 Jon R. Abel, OR
2008-09 Tacey Keylon, ID
2009-10 Eric Swenson, MT
2010-11 Ken Kuhn, BC
2011-12 Kimberly Gregory, WA
2012-13 Christine Liebelt-Garcia, AZ
2013-14 Martin Runge, BC
2014-15 Tina L. Fulks, NV
2015-16 Elaine Stedman, MT
2016-17 Cindy Arnzen, AZ
2017-18 Adam Smith, WA
2018-19 Tina Fulks, NV
2019-20 Rod Martel, CA
2020-21 Noelle Carstens, WA
2021-22 Joey Running, OR

**Dean Peterson was elected but did not assume the president's position.*