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## **Jerry Johns Reading Educator of the Year Award**

The Illinois Reading Council will recognize an outstanding teacher who makes significant contributions in promoting literacy among students, colleagues, and school communities. The award winner will receive a monetary award, an engraved plaque, a personalized banner, and recognition at the annual Illinois Reading Council conference. This award is supported by a generous gift from Jerry Johns, Past President of the Illinois Reading Council and the International Literacy Association.

Self-nominations and nominations by others will be accepted. Nominee must be a current member of IRC and ILA.

### **How to Apply:**

1. Complete the application form.
2. Attach three letters of recommendation.
  - a. Recommendations can be written by a colleague, an administrator, a parent, or a student.
  - b. Letters should address reasons why you are an excellent reading teacher.
3. Address your reading philosophy and contributions in a typed response no longer than four double-spaced pages.
  - a. Discuss your philosophy about literacy instruction including the theories that guide and shape it.
  - b. Explain how you implement your beliefs about reading.
  - c. Describe your community activities connected to enhancing literacy.
4. Send the completed application form, letters of recommendation, and your philosophy statement by **November 1st** to:

Melissa Wheeler, Committee Chair  
Email: [irc@illinoisreadingcouncil.org](mailto:irc@illinoisreadingcouncil.org)

# Jerry Johns Reading Educator of the Year Award Application Form

(Please Print)

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

District \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominated by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(If self-nominated, just write "Self-Nominated.")**

Check area of teaching responsibility:

\_\_\_\_\_ PreK-5                      \_\_\_\_\_ Reading Specialist/Literacy Coach  
\_\_\_\_\_ 6-12                         \_\_\_\_\_ College Instructor

IRC Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_ Local Council \_\_\_\_\_

International Reading Association Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_

List any IRC Council(s) to which you belong and offices held.

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List any other reading or reading educational organizations to which you belong and offices held.

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