The Klingenstein Teacher Award and Silverberg Leadership Award were established to celebrate the exceptional teaching and school leadership for which EL Education is known. These awards lift up teachers and leaders who are nominated by their peers, and provide an opportunity for the entire EL community to feel inspired by each other and our shared vision for student achievement across three dimensions.

The Klingenstein Teacher Award and Silverberg Leadership Award are bestowed annually during the EL Education National Conference. The 2020 deadline to nominate a teacher or school leader is Monday, June 15.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the criteria?

The **Klingenstein Teacher Award** is presented annually to a teacher who is judged by his or her peers to have most successfully transmitted to students the essence of EL Education, building exemplary character, driving outstanding academic achievement, and instilling an ethic of “citizen scholarship.” The teacher should:

- instill in students a desire to learn, take responsibility for their own education and achieve good academic results;
- inspire students’ participation in good citizenship in its broader sense, as well as inside the classroom, in the school and as part of the greater community; and
- model the value of “We are crew, not passengers,” in his or her classroom and school.
The **Silverberg Leadership Award** is presented annually to a school leader who has successfully impacted student achievement outcomes through a deep implementation of EL Education practices, inspiring teachers, administrative staff, and students to embrace EL Education culture and to lead students to a superior education, enhanced character development, and sense of civic responsibility. The leader should:

- unite staff, students, and the broader community around an inspirational vision of student success rooted in EL Education’s three dimensions of student achievement;
- engage their school community in continuous improvement to fulfill the vision;
- cultivate a professional culture among adults that parallels the empowering culture they foster for students;
- build the leadership capacity of others and empower them to lead improvement across the school;
- respect teachers and other staff members as creative agents and support them as professionals continually seeking to improve their craft; and
- ensure high-quality instruction through adequate allocation of resources and supporting structures so that all students excel.

**Who is eligible?**
All teachers and leaders whose schools are in active partnership with EL Education, whether a network school or literacy curriculum partnership.

**How do I nominate a teacher or school leader?**
To nominate a teacher or leader at your school, please submit a letter of support and an artifact that illustrates the nominee’s qualifications.

The **letter of support** should be no more than two pages in length and should explain how the teacher/leader exemplifies the award criteria. Strong nomination letters include specific evidence for each of the criteria. **Letters must be signed by at least two teachers.**

The **artifact** should further illustrate the nominee’s qualifications. Examples of artifacts include, but are not limited to: student work; testimonials, such as from parents or the district; a video of classroom practice; school climate surveys; an article from local media; and curriculum.

Submit your nomination materials by **Monday, June 15** at **ELeducation.org/awards** or email them directly to **awards@ELeducation.org**.

Please note that self-nominations are not permitted.

**Can a teacher or school leader be nominated more than once?**
Yes. Past nominees and finalists are eligible, and previous nomination materials can be re-submitted. Past recipients are not eligible.

**ELeducation.org/awards**
Can a school leader nominate a teacher?
No. Teachers must be nominated by fellow teachers. A letter from the school leader will be requested for all finalists for the Klingenstein Teacher Award.

Can EL Education staff nominate a teacher or school leader?
No.

When does the nomination process close?
Nominations are received on a rolling basis. The last day to nominate a teacher or school leader is June 15, 2020. You may notify us by email (awards@ELeducation.org) at any time of your plans to nominate a teacher or school leader, so that we know to expect your letter of support.

How are recipients selected?
Selection Committees are established each year to review the materials and select the recipients against the award criteria.

The Klingenstein Teacher Award Selection Committee is made up of four teachers from school partners.

The Silverberg Leadership Award Selection Committee is made up of four school leaders from EL Education Credentialed Schools.

When are the recipients notified?
All nominees will be notified in summer 2020.

When are the awards presented?
The awards will be presented during the EL Education 2020 National Conference in Denver, November 5-8.

What do the awards include?
Award recipients will receive a $5,000 cash prize and an invitation to attend the EL Education National Conference, as well as an invitation to present a Master Class at a future National Conference.

Who makes these awards possible?
The Klingenstein Teacher Award is made possible by Lee Klingenstein, Founding Chair of the EL Education Board of Directors (1927-2020).

The Silverberg Leadership Award is made possible by Irwin Silverberg, Treasurer of the EL Education Board of Directors.
Past Recipients

**Klingenstein Teacher Award**
- 2019  Sara Boeck Batista, Leaders High School, Brooklyn, NY
- 2018  Annie Holyfield, Joe Shoemaker School in Denver
- 2017  Lindsay Slabich, The Springfield Renaissance School
- 2016  Chris Dolgos, Genesee Community Charter School
- 2015  Jon Exall, Odyssey School of Denver
- 2014  Beth Mowry, Brooklyn School for Collaborative Studies
- 2013  Merry Byles-Daly, Grass Valley Charter School
- 2013  Susan McCray, Casco Bay High School

**Silverberg Leadership Award**
- 2019  William Haithcock, Harborside Academy
- 2018  Laina Cox, Capital City Public Charter School
- 2017  Michelle Navarre, Polaris Charter Academy
- 2016  Derek Pierce, Casco Bay High School
- 2015  Lisa Wing, Genesee Community Charter School
- 2014  Thabiti Brown, Codman Academy Charter Public School

Additional questions
Please email awards@ELeducation.org with additional questions.