



MEDIA ADVISORY
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2018 TEACHER OF THE YEAR TO BE NAMED; TEACHER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS RECOGNIZED

Who: Lt. Governor Jenean Hampton
Commissioner of Education Stephen Pruitt
Valvoline Inc. Chairman Sam Mitchell

What: The announcement of the 2018 Valvoline Inc. Teacher Achievement Awards to 24 teachers statewide, along with the Kentucky Elementary Teacher of the Year, the Kentucky Middle School Teacher of the Year, the Kentucky High School Teacher of the Year, and the overall 2018 Kentucky Teacher of the Year.

When: **Tuesday, May 16, 2017, 10 a.m. (ET)**

Where: The Capitol Rotunda, The State Capitol Building, Frankfort, Ky.

Through a partnership between Valvoline Inc. and the Ky. Dept. of Education, 21 Teacher Achievement Award winners will receive a cash gift of \$500; two of the three Kentucky Teacher of the Year finalists will receive a cash gift of \$3,000, and the overall Kentucky Teacher of the Year will receive a cash prize of \$10,000, along with an exciting professional development opportunity.

2018 Kentucky Teacher of the Year Semifinalists

Elementary school semifinalists:

- Natasha Craft, Pulaski Elementary, Pulaski County
- Belinda Furman, Sherman Elementary, Grant County
- Carla Oetinger, Ryland Heights Elementary, Kenton County

Middle school semifinalists:

- Jennifer Meo-Sexton, Bondurant Middle School, Franklin County
- Apryl Moore, The Academy at Shawnee, Jefferson County
- Olga Payne, Daviess County Middle School, Daviess County

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High school semifinalists:

- Kellie Clark, Randall K. Cooper High School, Boone County
- Doug Logan, Randall K. Cooper High School, Boone County
- Ryan New, Boyle County High School, Boyle County

2018 Valvoline Teacher Achievement Award Winners

The 24 winning teachers are:

Elementary School

- Amber Adams, Wrigley Elementary, Morgan County
- Lori Clements, West Louisville Elementary, Daviess County
- Natasha Craft, Pulaski Elementary, Pulaski County
- Belinda Furman, Sherman Elementary, Grant County
- Wendy Gamblin, West Broadway Elementary, Hopkins County
- Cheryl Nance, Collins Lane Elementary, Franklin County
- Carla Oetinger, Ryland Heights Elementary, Kenton County
- Mandy Ridenour, Audubon Traditional Elementary, Jefferson County

Middle School

- Jennifer Beasley, Meece Middle, Somerset Independent
- Ashley Haynes, Hazard Middle, Hazard Independent
- Kim Joiner, Noe Middle, Jefferson County
- Brianne McDowell, Mason County Middle, Mason County
- Ashley McGaughey, Spencer County Middle, Spencer County
- Jennifer Meo-Sexton, Bondurant Middle, Franklin County
- Apryl Moore, The Academy at Shawnee, Jefferson County
- Olga Payne, Daviess County Middle, Daviess County

High School

- Amy Argo, Lyon County High, Lyon County
- Misty Bivens, LaRue County High, LaRue County
- Kellie Clark, Randall K. Cooper High, Boone County
- Taylor Clements, Atherton High, Jefferson County
- Benjamin Davis, Campbellsville High, Campbellsville Independent
- Cortney Flannery, Betsy Layne High, Floyd County
- Douglas Logan, Randall K. Cooper High, Boone County
- Ryan New, Boyle County High, Boyle County

Teachers' bios and pictures can be accessed at <http://kentuckytoy.com>.

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