



The Rotary Club of Des Moines strongly believes in education. There's no greater gift you can give a child! Many times, the unsung hero in the process is the teacher. This award was designed to identify and honor those educators who do the hard work of preparing our children for their future and ours.

ROTARY EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR 2026 APPLICATION FORM

Educator Name: _____

Educator Email: _____ Educator Phone: _____

School: _____ School Address: _____

Staff member making recommendation: _____

Title: _____ Staff Member Email: _____

Subject(s) & Grade Level(s): _____

Years in Present Position: _____ Total Years of Teaching Experience _____

Education & Certifications: _____

This application must be completed entirely by the applicant and not hand-written. Email it (preferred) and a letter of recommendation from your principal to: rotary@rotaryclubofdesmoines.org. You may also mail your completed application to The Rotary Club of Des Moines, 301 Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA 50309.

Due Date: Friday, March 6, 2026

Rotary will select elementary, middle, and high school outstanding educators. One application per school and no past recipients may apply. Honorees will be notified and recognized at a special luncheon on Thursday, April 9, 2026. A \$1,500 stipend will go to each selected educator for use in his or her classroom. Their pictures will be displayed on a billboard in the Des Moines area. The Club will also provide a plaque for you.

I give my permission for any or all of the material presented to be shared with persons involved in the selection of the Rotary Educator of the Year.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

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Please keep your answers succinct.

1) What's your personal philosophy on how to deliver the most effective and motivating education? What specific strategies do you use to accomplish this?

2) Describe a recent challenge at your school and how you overcame it.

Please keep your answers succinct.

3) Being “fair to all concerned” is a guide Rotarians use for personal and business relationships. How do you apply this ideal in your classroom?

4) Please share anything you do outside the classroom that positively impacts your community?

5) What’s the best way Rotary and the community can support you, the children, and their families so students can become lifelong learners?