



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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News Release

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NETTLETON TEACHER NAMED ARKANSAS HISTORY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

LITTLE ROCK — The Arkansas Department of Education today announces that Lisa Lacefield of the Nettleton School District in Craighead County has been chosen as the 2011 State History Teacher of the Year for Arkansas.

Nettleton Middle School Principal Sandy McCall praised Lacefield's enthusiasm for history, thirst for learning more about the subject she teaches, and her desire to preserve America's heritage.

"Mrs. Lacefield promotes the love and instills the importance of learning American history in the lives of the students she educates daily," McCall wrote in her nomination letter. "Mrs. Lacefield's approach to teaching involves in-depth units, created originally by her, where students are encouraged to examine, discuss, and question historical events. She does not stop there but enhances her curriculum by delving into the causes of historical events to help students not only learn what happened but also why the events took place."

Lacefield teaches 6th Grade Social Studies. She has a bachelor's degree from Ouachita Baptist University and a master's degree from Harding University. She has taught at Nettleton since 1998.

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History presented Lacefield the award during a ceremony Wednesday at Nettleton Middle School. She received a check for \$1,000 and a number of books and other historical resources. State winners are entered into a competition for the institute's national history teacher of the year.

The applicants are judged on their deep commitment to teaching American history, evidence of creativity and imagination in the classroom, and close attention to documents, artifacts and other primary sources.

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