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# ELEVEN LINDENWOOD ALUMNAE RECEIVE EMERSON EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

November 19, 2018

On Nov. 11, 2018, 11 alumnae of Lindenwood University's School of Education received the Emerson Electric Excellence in Teaching Award. The 109 award winners from St. Louis-area schools were recognized at a ceremony at the Ritz Carlton in St. Louis.

Award recipients received a Tiffany & Co. crystal apple and have the opportunity to apply for a Gold Star Grant from Emerson, to be presented in spring 2019. Honorees from this year and the past five years are eligible to apply for the competitive grants, which are designed to fund educational projects that reflect the pillars of the Emerson brand—technology, innovation, and leadership. Since 2006, Emerson has awarded \$615,000 to area teachers and schools through the Gold Star Grant program. The company began awarding the Excellence in Teaching Awards in 1989.

"We are very proud of these distinguished award-winning alumni," said Dr. Anthony Scheffler, dean of the Lindenwood University School of Education. "This award speaks well not only of the recipients but of the Lindenwood School of Education faculty and staff who work every day to ensure that the education our students receive is exceptional."

The Lindenwood alumnae who won the award this year are as follows:

- Latia Jackson ('08, '12), 7<sup>th</sup>-grade English teacher at Mason Clark Middle School in the East Saint Louis School District 189
- Laura Leyes-Woods ('06), art teacher at Hancock Place High School in the Hancock Place School District
- Evie Troupe ('07), 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>-grade teacher at Washington Elementary in the Normandy School District
- Amy Schwendemann ('05), science teacher at Pattonville High School in the Pattonville School District

- Amy Brinkmann ('91), kindergarten teacher at August Elementary in the School District of Washington
- Stacy Castro ('04), kindergarten teacher at Valley Park Elementary in the Valley Park School District
- Tifani Herbert ('03), 11<sup>th</sup>- and 12<sup>th</sup>-grade early childhood careers teacher at Lewis & Clark Career Center in the City of St. Charles School District
- Andrea Head ('08), library media specialist at Francis Howell Central High School in the Francis Howell School District
- Rachel Gasawski ('09), 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>-grade health education teacher at Wydown Middle School in the School District of Clayton
- Leigha Brede ('17), 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>-grade special education and co-taught math teacher at Hazelwood Northwest Middle School in the Special School District
- Susan Parker ('17), 7<sup>th</sup>- and 8<sup>th</sup>-grade school guidance counselor at Signal Hill Elementary in the Signal Hill School District