**WVRA Awards & Recognition**

One of the goals of the West Virginia Reading Association is to recognize professional educators across the state that have made outstanding contributions in the area of reading literacy.

To accomplish this goal we need these individuals nominated by people who see their efforts. Nominated individuals will receive packets to complete. The award winners as well as all the nominees will be recognized at our annual conference in November.

The first three awards and nomination guidelines are not limited to WVRA members. Please review and send your nominations by Friday, September 9, 2023. The nomination form for the first three awards has been attached to this same email. The Cynthia Lorentz-Cook Memorial Grant application is available from each county council president. These forms are also available on our website: wvreading.com

**The Eddie C. Kennedy Award**

* ANY certified teacher K-12, across the curriculum, who has made an outstanding contribution to helping students become proficient readers and motivating them to become lifelong readers.

[*This award is named in honor of Dr. Eddie C. Kennedy, an inspiring professor at WVU and member of WVRA.*]

**The Madge McDaniel Award**

* An educator or administrator who has made outstanding contributions to the field of reading literacy. This may include, but is not limited to superintendents, principals, supervisors, Title I directors, county language arts coordinators/supervisors, reading specialists, staff development coordinators, and college educators.

[*This award is named in honor of Madge McDaniel, the first elected president of WVRA*.]

**The Dr. Jennie Bechtold Award**

* A full-time elementary teacher, Title I teacher, or a reading interventionist who has been employed for 1-5 years and has demonstrated excellence in teaching.

[*This award is named in honor of Dr Jennie Bechtold whose untiring commitment to WVRA, IRA,*

*and to her many students was exemplary*.]

**The Cynthia Lorentz-Cook Memorial Grant**

* This provides grant money (up to $500) to local WVRA reading councils for literacy programs and projects.

[*This grant is named in honor of Cynthia Lorentz-Cook, a Charleston, WV native*.]