



West Virginia Reading Association

Changing Lives Through Reading

August 18, 2026

Hello West Virginia educators,

I'm the Citations and Awards Chair of the West Virginia Reading Association. My job is to gather the names of educators who have done outstanding work in reading literacy and to recognize them in November at our annual conference at Oglebay Resort in Wheeling. As you may know, this will be our third conference there, and we look forward to exploring this beautiful venue again. We hope you are able to join us for all our conference offers: outstanding keynote speakers, educational breakout sessions, author luncheons, and socializing with peers.

To do my job, I need your help. As educators we recognize outstanding work, and I need you to tell me who is doing it... even if it's YOU!

There are two important documents related to these awards. The first one describes the four awards that are given for outstanding performance in reading literacy education which is open to all educators in WV, not just WVRA members; the second one is the nomination form for each person you want to nominate.

It's also my job to collect applications for a grant titled The Cynthia Lorentz-Cook Memorial Grant. It's only open to teachers that work in counties that have a council in the WVRA. You must have a literacy program or project idea, and on the application, you must describe it. The grant money is a maximum of \$1000. I'm including that application form, as well.

If your county doesn't have a WVRA council, and you're interested in starting one in your county, contact Dr. Cheryl Jeffers, cherylannjeffers@gmail.com who will assist you in the process.

Unfortunately, I have to have all these nominations sent to me by Monday, September 14. I know that's not much time, but please get them to me ASAP.

Thanks so much,
Linda Childers
Citations and Awards Chair
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