

Arizona Innovation Heroes Awards



Through its **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)** Education Initiative, Science Foundation Arizona is recognizing K-12 and postsecondary teachers and students who are making significant strides in STEM education. STEM education provides Arizona students the fundamental skills and career pathways to excel in the global economy of the 21st century.

The ***Innovation Heroes Awards*** reward students and teachers who are shining examples of innovation in STEM learning. ***Innovation Heroes*** are co-sponsored by Science Foundation's STEM Initiative corporate partners. Science Foundation presents these awards throughout the academic year to worthy recipients statewide. The program is ongoing and nominations are accepted at any time.

Innovation Heroes are truly heroes among us helping raise awareness of the importance of STEM education and inspiring others to follow in their footsteps.

Who are ***Innovation Heroes?***

*You may know one
or even be one
yourself!*

Innovation Heroes are teachers and students throughout the state who are making significant academic achievements in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). STEM education provides Arizona students the fundamental skills to excel in today's global economy.

Innovation Heroes Receive:

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- Students: \$1,000 EE Savings bond for college (\$500 value at time of award)
 - Teachers: \$500 gift certificate for classroom supplies
 - Awards are presented at the winners' schools
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Selection Process: Science Foundation Arizona compiles a list of the nominees by county and town/city statewide. Applications are judged based on each candidate's impact on STEM in the community, the candidate's innovativeness, leadership ability and the description and quality of the candidate's essay.

The categories and general criteria are below.

Student Nominee (K-12 and Post-Secondary) - Individuals who have excelled in STEM education activities, research or academic achievement.

Teacher Nominee (K-12 and Post-Secondary) - Those who are leading in the fields of innovation, technology and entrepreneurship or have instituted innovative practices or curricula to advance student success and enhance student interest in STEM.

Attached is the 3-page nomination form.

We would like to recognize the financial contributions of Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold as our partner in supporting Science Foundation Arizona STEM and their on-going commitment to advancing STEM education statewide.

Arizona Innovation Heroes Awards Nomination Form

Science Foundation Arizona is recognizing teachers and students who are making significant academic advances and achievements in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

To apply, provide the required information below and on the next two pages. Print the nominee's name at the top of every page. Both the nominator and the nominee are required to complete their respective sections.

Please send completed forms by e-mail to Heather Wilkinson at hwilkinson@sfaz.org

NOMINEE IS A TEACHER_____ STUDENT_____

NOMINEE NAME _____

NOMINEE SCHOOL AND DISTRICT AFFILIATION _____

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT _____

NOMINEE ADDRESS _____

NOMINEE PHONE NUMBER _____

NOMINEE EMAIL ADDRESS _____

YOUR (NOMINATOR) NAME _____

YOUR ADDRESS _____

YOUR PHONE NUMBER _____

YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS _____

ALTERNATE CONTACT (IF NEEDED) _____

IF SELECTED, STUDENTS AND TEACHERS WILL BE AWARDED IN PERSON AT THEIR SCHOOLS. PLEASE PROVIDE NOMINEE SCHOOL ADDRESS, LOCATION AND PHONE NUMBER.

SCHOOL ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

NOMINATOR: PLEASE PROVIDE A ONE-PAGE ESSAY ON WHY THE PERSON YOU ARE NOMINATING SHOULD RECEIVE THE ARIZONA INNOVATION HEROES AWARD.

IF YOU ARE NOMINATING YOURSELF, THEN PLEASE COMPLETE ESSAY ON PAGE 3.

NOMINEE SECTION: THIS SECTION IS TO BE COMPLETED BY THE INDIVIDUAL BEING NOMINATED FOR THE AWARD (THE NOMINEE). *(IF THE NOMINEE IS UNABLE TO COMPLETE THIS SECTION; THE NOMINATOR SHOULD PROVIDE A SHORT ESSAY ON THEIR BEHALF.)*

IF YOU ARE A TEACHER NOMINEE:

Please provide a short essay no more than one page that demonstrates how your actions have had an impact on student achievement.

IF YOU ARE A STUDENT NOMINEE:

Please provide a short essay no more than one page that describes how you applied a math or science skill to a real-world problem and tell us what you learned in the process.