

The RICK LASHER Professional Growth Grant

(Formerly the NAEA CONFERENCE PROFESSIONAL GROWTH GRANT)

This Grant, named after former President Rick Lasher for her dedication and commitment to Professional Growth and Development of all art teachers in New Jersey, provides money to attend the NAEA convention as part of professional development.

The Art Educators of New Jersey Executive Board recognizes that attendance at the annual Convention of the National Art Education Association (NAEA) is important to the professional growth of members of AENJ, thus furthering AENJ goals. NAEA provides New Jersey Professional Development credits for conference attendance.

Funding: Monies will be allocated each year to encourage active and student members to submit proposals that indicate the educational benefits resulting from attendance. Current Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30) - \$500 per grant. One half of the grant monies will be awarded prior to the convention; the balance of the grant monies will be awarded on the recipient's completion of all responsibilities (see below).

Criteria: No proposal will be considered unless submitted by a current member of the AENJ who has been a member for a minimum of two years. Member must also be current NAEA member and pay conference registration fees. After receiving a grant, a member remains ineligible for consideration for this grant for no less than three years.

Instructions for Submitting Proposals:

Complete Cover Sheet

Submit proposals to Susan Bivona, they must be POSTMARKED **April 15th** of current year and include:

- Letter from Principal, Department Chair, or Supervisor
- **OR**
- Letter from Art Educator Colleague
- Proof of membership in AENJ (will be confirmed by AENJ Membership Chair)
- This letter should include number of years employed at current position
- Brief essay indicating why you wish to attend the NAEA Conference (following year) including what specific areas of art education you may wish to explore. Specific areas might include: Special Education, Assessment, DBAE, Technology, Curriculum, Facilities, etc.

Recipients' Responsibilities: Recipients will be expected to bring their experience at the NAEA convention back to the local membership

- Recipients will attend the New Jersey Reception at the NAEA convention to meet with other recipients and with executive board members.
- Recipient will write a brief account of their experience at the convention to be published in an AENJ publication.
- Recipients will give a presentation at the AENJ conference the following October. This presentation may be by a single presenter or as part of a panel presentation.
- Recipient will submit all receipts, to the AENJ Treasurer, from their trip for reimbursement no later than May 31st (amount not to exceed grant amount awarded).

**Submit all applications to Susan Bivona,
they must be POSTMARKED April 15th**

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