

CHARTER INSTITUTE AT ERSKINE

2023



AWARDS BANQUET GUIDELINES

ROLE OF THE INSTITUTE TEACHER OF THE YEAR

The Charter Institute at Erskine Teacher of the Year serves as an ambassador for the Institute as well as all schools and students within the Institute. The Teacher of the Year will serve for one school year and is a leader and role model for all Institute teachers.

- The Charter Institute at Erskine (Institute) Teacher of the Year (TOY) is a classroom teacher in a public pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, elementary, middle, or secondary school with a professional certificate. This includes all subject area teachers, vocational teachers, school librarians, school counselors, curriculum resource teachers, teacher specialists, speech-language pathologists, and lead teachers who are planning to continue in an active teaching status. Active teaching status means that the teacher is planning to continue teaching (e.g. not retiring or moving into an administrative position the following year).
- The TOY is a continuing-contract teacher and has direct contact with students a minimum of three hours a day, on average, and must hold a valid South Carolina teaching certificate.
 - Schools may nominate uncertified TOYs with the understanding that they will not be selected as Institute Teacher of the Year. TOYs who are not willing to compete at the state level for Institute recognition may be nominated with the understanding that they may not be selected as Institute Teacher of the Year.
- The TOY collaborates with colleagues, students, and families to create a culture of innovation and excellence.
- The TOY may work with the Institute throughout the year on special projects or professional development to promote and develop great teachers and the charter schools they serve.
- The TOY will attend the CERRA State Teacher of the Year Forum Conference, which is usually held in November, and return to share the experience with all teachers in the Institute schools.
- The TOY agrees to complete the State TOY application process as the Institute's TOY and may consult previous TOYs for input and suggestions for their application.
- The TOY will serve as a judge for the next year's Institute TOY and present the award to the new TOY.

2021-2022 Teacher of the Year
Ms. Laura Ferguson - South
Carolina Connections Academy



TEACHER OF THE YEAR SELECTION PROCESS

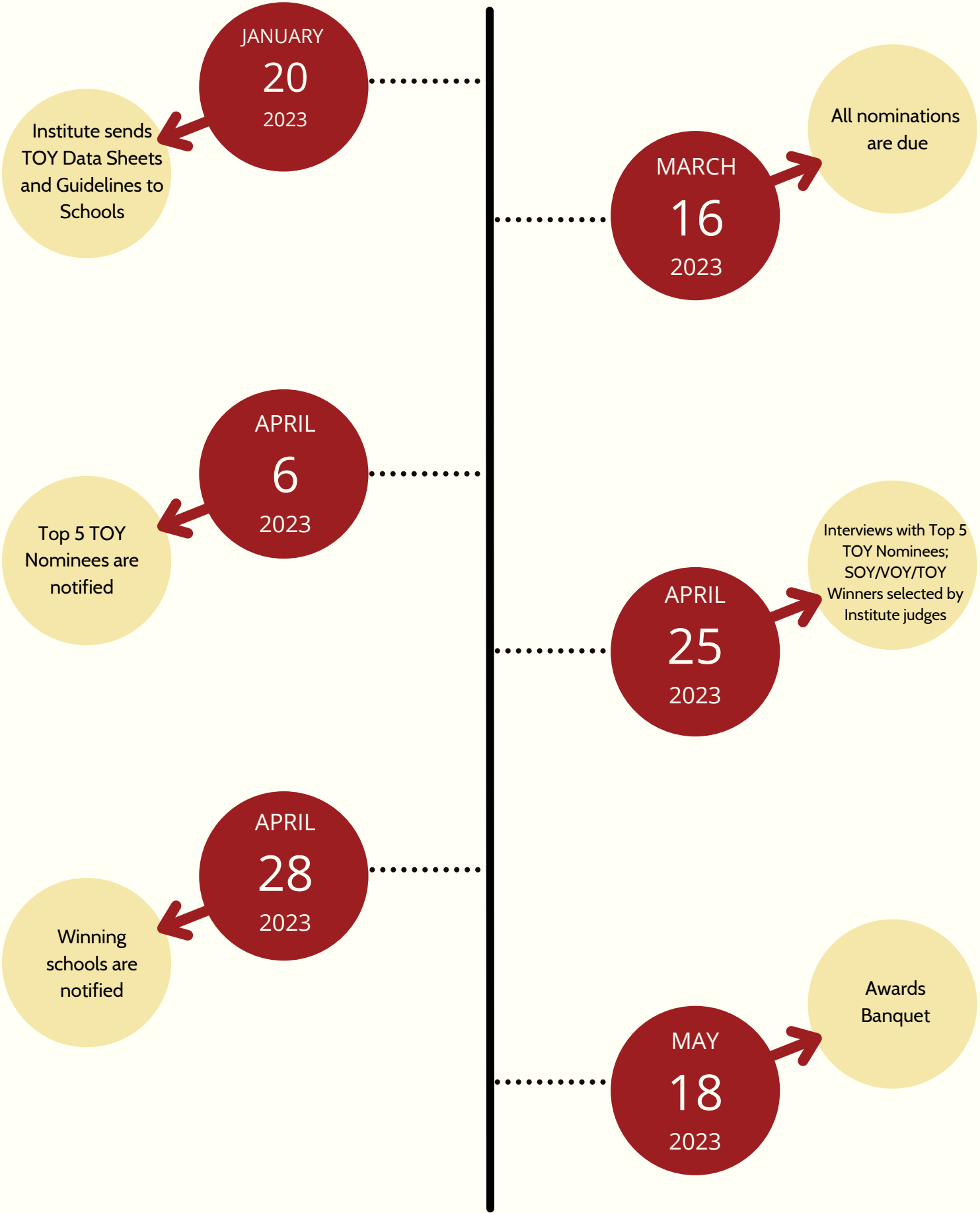
- Notices are sent to schools early each calendar year regarding the Teacher of the Year application timeline.
- The schools submit their TOY data sheets and the teachers' completed portfolios in mid-March. Schools with more than one grade span may submit one teacher in each category: Elementary, Middle, and High.
- All identifying information is redacted from the portfolios and each portfolio is assigned a number to maintain confidentiality and avoid partiality.
- The portfolios are then distributed to judges along with score sheets.
- The judges have a week to review the portfolios and submit the score sheets.
- The top five teachers with the highest scores will be notified and must then participate in a face-to-face interview with the judges.
- Each of the top five teachers will be asked the same questions during their interview.
- The judges will score the interviews, privately discuss the interviews, and select the winner.
- The winner will be announced at the Awards Banquet and will serve as the Institute TOY for the following school year.

See the next page for this year's timeline.

Ms. Julie Phillips of SCVCS is awarded Teacher of the Year for the 2019-2020 school year.



INSTITUTE TEACHER OF THE YEAR PROCESS TIMELINE



TEACHER OF THE YEAR INTERVIEW FORMAT

- The top five finalists, along with their school leaders, will be notified and an interview schedule will be sent to them.
- Each of the five teachers will come to the Institute office to be interviewed by a panel of judges.
- Each one will have a specific amount of time for the interview, where they will introduce themselves and give an overview of their educational philosophy and perspectives.
- The judges will ask each finalist the same questions and give a score for each one.
- After all interviews are held, the judges' scores will be tallied and an Institute Teacher of the Year chosen.
- This teacher will serve as the Institute Teacher of the Year during the following school year.
- The Institute Teacher of the Year will be a secret until the Awards Banquet.

[Click here to view the State TOY information](#) or scan the QR code.



Contact Ashley Epperson at aepperson@erskinecharters.org or (803) 995-0527.

2020-2021 Institute Teacher of the Year Katie Bell is honored at the State Teacher of the Year gala.



STUDENT OF THE YEAR

The Institute Student of the Year is selected by the same panel of judges who select the Teacher of the Year and the Volunteer of the Year. The Student of the Year is a student who has demonstrated leadership, achieved academic excellence, or overcome great obstacles. Schools may nominate one SOY per school level (one per elementary school, middle school, and high school,).

Consider the following when submitting your nomination.

- *What qualities make this student stand out from the rest of his/her peers?*
- *How has the student taken a negative circumstance and turned it into something positive?*
- *How has this student taken advantage of the opportunities afforded to them by a charter school?*
- *How is this student leaving his/her mark on your school?*



***Jason Lin, 2021-2022 High School
Student of the Year***

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The Institute Volunteer of the Year is selected by the same panel of judges who select the Teacher of the Year and the Students of the Year. The Volunteer of the Year is a parent, community member, or someone otherwise associated with your school who has generously devoted their time and resources to bettering charter schools in South Carolina.

Consider the following when submitting your nomination.

- *How has this volunteer made the school community a better place?*
- *What impact has his/her time and resources have on your school?*
- *What makes this person a role model to your school's students?*



***Keith Anderson, 2021-2022
Volunteer of the Year***

AWARDS BANQUET CHECKLIST FOR SCHOOLS

☐ Nominate a Teacher of the Year for each category (if applicable).

☐ Elementary School

☐ Middle School

☐ High School



Remember that Teacher of the Year nominees must complete their own applications including a headshot, biography, narrative, and letters of support. Full requirements are listed on the application.

☐ Nominate a Student of the Year for each category (if applicable).

☐ Elementary School

☐ Middle School

☐ High School

☐ Nominate a Volunteer of the Year.

☐ Notify your teacher(s), student(s), and volunteer that they've been nominated. Consider making it a celebration!

☐ Share the link to register with your team and your school's nominees and register by May 5.

☐ Keep an eye out for an email from the Institute about registration, nomination status, etc.

☐ Attend the Awards Banquet on May 18!

MARCH

16

2023

SOY/VOY/TOY
Winners
selected by
Institute judges

APRIL

28

2023

Awards
Banquet

All nominations are
due

Schools with
winning
SOY/VOY/TOY are
notified

APRIL

25

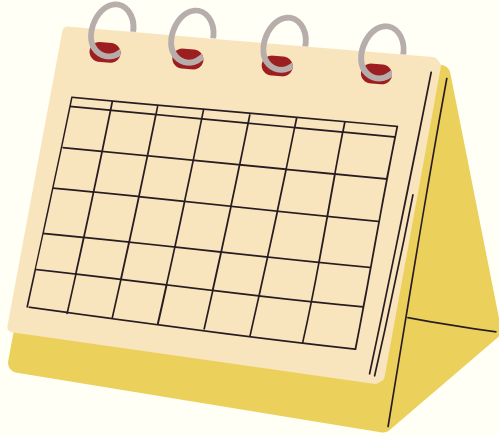
2023

MAY

18

2023

2023 AWARDS BANQUET INFORMATION



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Evening

Columbia, SC

[CLICK HERE TO NOMINATE STUDENTS, TEACHERS,](#)
[AND VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR](#)

Nominations Due by March 16

CONTACT

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CHARTER INSTITUTE AT ERSKINE

2023



Ms. Anne Brown
2018-2019
Royal Live Oaks Academy



Ms. Julie Phillips
2019-2020
South Carolina Virtual
Charter School



Ms. Katie Bell
2020-2021
Lowcountry Leadership
Charter School



Ms. Laura Ferguson
2021-2022
South Carolina
Connections Academy



Ms. Megan Patterson
2022-2023
Belton Preparatory
Academy

TEACHER OF THE YEAR HALL OF FAME