

For Immediate Release

Promising Practices Announced for 2011

Over 250 effective strategies that develop good character in K-12 students are recognized.

June 6, 2011... *Washington, DC* – The Character Education Partnership (CEP) has announced it will award 260 Promising Practices to 235 schools and districts from across the United States, Brazil, Mexico, and Singapore. The Promising Practices program recognizes schools and districts that have developed specific, unique, and effective educational practices that promote character development.

“These practices show what positive impact educators can have when they use high-quality character education strategies to bring out the best in their students,” said CEP President & CEO Joe Mazzola. “CEP congratulates these educators for helping today’s students become tomorrow’s citizen leaders.”

This year’s winning practices include strong anti-bullying programs, service-learning endeavors, academic practices targeting at-risk youth, activities encouraging care for the environment, and programs promoting parent and community involvement.

CEP sponsors the annual program to showcase innovative best practices that are having an impact across the nation and abroad. CEP encourages other educators to learn from and even replicate these successful initiatives. CEP will honor the 2011 recipients at the 18th National Forum on Character Education, *Building Ethical Communities*, to be held in San Francisco, California, Oct. 19-22. In addition, winning practices will be featured in CEP’s annual National Schools of Character publication and on the CEP website.

“These practices demonstrate how thoughtful, quality character development strategies can successfully impact academic success, ethical decision-making, and social responsibility,” said Lisa Greeves, Manager of the Promising Practices Program. “We are excited to spread the word about their success.”

This year’s Promising Practices represent 31 different states and three foreign countries. CEP received a record 499 applications overall from public schools, private schools, school districts, and other organizations. Schools in Missouri submitted the most applications, followed by New Jersey, Florida, and Michigan.

The Promising Practices awards program is administered by CEP as part of its National Schools of Character program. Based in Washington, D.C., CEP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, nonsectarian coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to helping schools develop people of good character for a just and compassionate society. To learn more about CEP and its national programs, visit www.character.org.

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