

The CEA Voice

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Columbus Education Association

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King Dinner award winners announced

CEA is pleased to announce the 2008 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award honorees. Each embodies a commitment to justice and human rights in the central Ohio community. Join us Wednesday, Jan. 16, at the Hyatt Regency Columbus to pay tribute to these heroes.

The winner of the 2008 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award is the Rev. Leon Troy.

Troy's 50 years of ministry and public service have focused on human and civil rights.

A former Columbus Board of Education member, Troy also has served on numerous mayoral commissions. He was the first African-American Fire Police Chaplain employed by the Columbus Fire Division.

Troy, a native of Cleveland and graduate of the Toledo Public Schools, has presided at four Ohio churches. He was pastor of the historical Second Baptist Church in Columbus.

He began to work for equal opportunity for all citizens almost as soon as he wrote his first sermon. He ran a Head Start program in Sandusky, spurring development of 10 similar classes throughout the area, and instituted the pre-school center at Second Baptist Church in Warren, with a focus on school readiness. He co-founded an organization supplying shoes to needy children in the Warren area, for which he received a Jaycees award and later the Ohio Governor's Award for Community Action.

Troy's fight to end suffering and improve conditions for his fellow man grew over the years. He was the first president of the Trumbull County's Anti-Poverty Agency. As pastor of Second Baptist Church, Troy led his congregation in establishing the Second Baptist Housing Corporation, which received a \$1.8 million federal grant in 1996 to build a 45-unit housing complex for the elderly.

Rev. Troy holds divinity degrees from Oberlin Graduate School of Theology and Vanderbilt University. He and his wife, Berniece, raised five sons. They have eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

The winner of the 2008 Helen Jenkins Davis Award is Cathy Nelson.

Nelson was the chief developer of the Underground Railroad curriculum, entitled *Seeking Freedom*, which is now used in schools throughout the United States. This curriculum provides a multifaceted view of the history, culture, architecture and society during that era. Nelson was president and founder of The Friends of the Underground Railroad Freedom Society, an affiliate of the Ohio Underground Railroad Association. Cathy served as the elementary social studies



Rev. Leon Troy



Cathy Nelson

curriculum coordinator for Columbus City Schools prior to becoming a PAR consulting teacher.

Nelson said publicly that it is important to teach the meaning behind the railroad movement. "The issues that people were facing—prejudice, racism, (denial of) human rights and the struggle for freedom—these are the issues that 12- and 13-year-old students are still facing today," she said.

The King Dinner begins with a social hour at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Columbus. Make your reservations through Minority Involvement Program (MIP) committee members, faculty representatives or call the CEA office at 253-4731.

New legislation, FBI checks & code of conduct

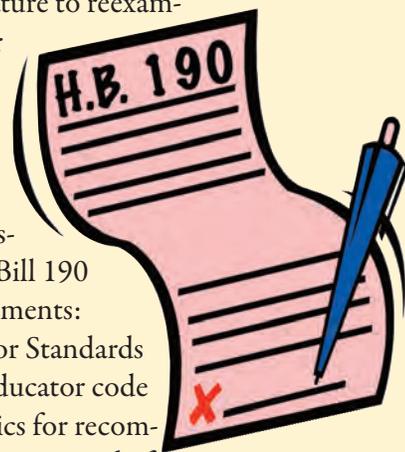
The recent *Dispatch* series, "ABCs of Betrayal," has prompted the state legislature to reexamine regulations on teacher behavior. The result is House Bill 190 amendments, a series of directives intended to enhance monitoring of teacher misconduct in Ohio. House Bill 190 contains the following elements:

- Directs the Educator Standards Board to develop educator code of conduct and ethics for recommendation to the State Board of Education
- Provides the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) the authority to revoke expired teacher licenses on the same grounds as active licenses
- Directs ODE to recommend additional enforcement mechanisms
- Requires ODE to conduct federal and state background checks on all school employees every five years

These new directives will be implemented within the next couple of months.

OEA officials testified before the House Education Committee at three hearings over the past two weeks. OEA believes that student safety is important and does not condone teacher behavior that can harm students. However, OEA stressed that strong student protections can be maintained while ensuring the due process and privacy rights of school employees who may be falsely accused.

The bill contains another provision regarding the funding of all-day kindergarten. It allows school districts that do not receive state funding for all-day programs to charge fees. A recent Ohio Attorney General opinion had ruled local districts did not have the authority to charge fees for all-day kindergarten programs. Some programs could not afford to continue the all-day sessions.



Sick leave bank deadline approaching

One of the most valuable benefits of CEA membership is in jeopardy of not being implemented: our sick leave bank. We have not reached our goal of 10 percent participation. And because of that, the bank option is going to be terminated very shortly. That is unless you help.

The deadline for participation has been extended to Dec. 20 at the close of the business day. This is a negotiated item that has taken years to finally implement. We urge you to sign up. Your fellow staff members need you.

Each year, some of us experience devastating illnesses and injuries that require long recovery periods; and we run out of sick days. This is a way for all of us to help one another during these needy times. Anyone who has joined the bank by donating at least two sick days, and then exhausts his or her own share, may take a loan from the bank of up to 10 days.

The donation form and a detailed description of the plan are available on the CEA Web sites and from the CCS Human Resources Department.

Thanks for giving to United Way

CEA wants to thank all Association members and classified and administrative staff who contributed to the annual United Way campaign. Our campaign was one of the most successful in recent history. Because of you, United Way is able to help thousands of people throughout central Ohio meet its goal, to improve the quality of human lives, together.

We want to thank the following schools added to the list of contributors to this year's Columbus City Schools campaign: AIMS, Arlington Park ES, Avalon ES, Centennial HS, Como ES, Indian Springs ES, Leawood ES @Koebel, Linden-McKinley HS, Marion-Franklin HS, Maybury ES, Trevitt ES @Main and Valleyview ES.

Find help for your idea

Have you ever come up with a great project idea to engage your students, only to find out your school can't fund the resources to make it happen? DonorsChoose.org can help.

This not-for-profit Web site is simple. Each day it receives 10,000 visitors who are looking for charitable projects to fund. When you submit a project request, you offer caring individuals the chance to directly fund books, supplies, technology and more for your students.

To date, 25,000 individuals in all 50 states have contributed more than \$13 million to public school classrooms, and this number grows every day.

Don't miss this exciting opportunity to give your students the resources that will best help them learn.

PAR/OSU class winter quarter

PAR/OSU will offer *Strategies for Successful Teaching in the Urban Context* winter quarter. The course is open to all educators in Columbus City Schools and will meet on Tuesday evenings from 4:30-7 p.m. at AIMS. Three free graduate credit hours are offered from OSU. Registration will take place at the first class on Jan. 8. A wide range of topics will be

covered, including gang activity, stress management and high order thinking skills. Different topics will be offered each week. Bring proof of your degree (diploma or transcript) if you have never taken an OSU course.

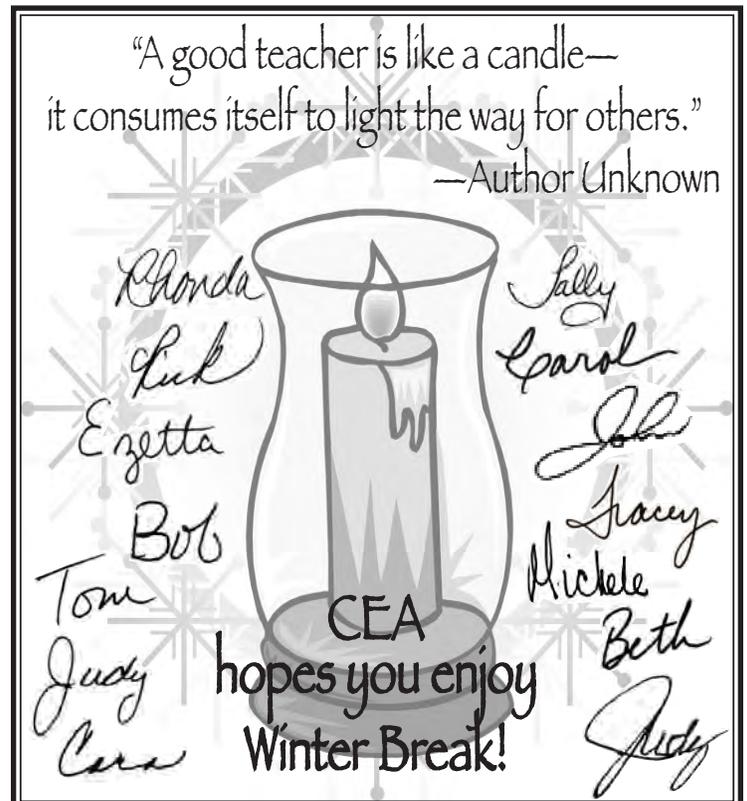
Multicultural training available

Many members were disappointed when they heard that Luella Tapo had left the CEA staff more than 10 years ago. However, many missed the chance of having her come out to their buildings and to provide multicultural presentations. Luella is available on a limited basis to come to your school.

Arrangements can be made by calling (614) 855-7559. If you are interested in taking advantage of this service, please contact her as soon as possible.

Special notes

- Parsons ES staff will receive Gainsharing awards.** The Gain-sharing Committee had failed to take into consideration the consolidation of Scioto Trail ES and Stockbridge ES to create the new Parsons ES. CEA congratulates the Parsons ES teachers.
- Funds are available for **professional leave**, a contract provision extended to teachers to help them continue their education. **Apply by Jan. 4** for activities you might wish to attend in February. Surf to the www.ceaohio.org to read more about this benefit.
- Tutors are needed for the 21st Century Community Learning Center After-School Program at East Linden ES** located at 2505 Brentnell Ave. Tutoring will be on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4:30-5:30 p.m. for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. Please respond to Lauren Zatzoff at 365-5747 or lzatzoff6386@columbus.k12.oh.us if interested.
- Blue Jacket Tickets are available** from the CEA office for the following dates: **Dec. 18**, Calgary (4); **Dec. 26**, Atlanta (4); **Dec. 31**, Edmonton (4); **Jan. 11**, St. Louis (4); and **Jan. 15**, Vancouver (4). Call the CEA office at 253-4731 to purchase tickets.



Job Sharing Requests

CEA is compiling a list of teachers interested in job sharing next school year. If you are looking for a job sharing partner, fill out the form below and return it to the CEA office. A list will be printed and mailed to each person who submits the form to assist him/her in finding a partner for job sharing. Even if you submitted your name last year, please fill out a new form this year. Please return this form to Carol Wagner at CEA by Monday, Dec. 10, 2007.

Name: _____

Present Assignment: _____

Certification Area(s): _____

Teaching Preference for Next Year: _____

School: _____ Phone: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____

Mobile Phone: (____) _____

Email Address: _____