

# KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## NEWS RELEASE

October 18, 2011

**Jenni Lou Jackson**, an 8th-grade language arts teacher at Corbin Middle School in the Corbin Independent school district, was named **2012 Middle School Teacher of the Year**.

She joined 21 other teachers from across the state honored with 2012 Ashland Inc. Teacher Achievement Awards. Ms. Jackson received \$3,000 and a customized, art-glass vase from Ashland Inc.

### **JINNY LOU JACKSON**

Virginia (Jinny Lou) Jackson, a 12-year teaching veteran, has taught language arts at her current school for the past three years. She earned a bachelor's degree at Eastern Kentucky University and a master's degree and teaching certification at Union College, and she's a candidate for National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certification. Jackson was listed among the Tri-County's Top 20 Citizens by her local newspaper, in which she also was featured for innovative teaching techniques. She is a recipient of her district's Most Caring Teacher Award, and her professional affiliations include the Kentucky Association of Professional Educators, National Board for Professional Teachers, First Priority and the Christian Educator's Association.

This is the 11th year Ashland Inc. and the Kentucky Department of Education have co-sponsored the Kentucky Teacher Achievement Awards. Applications for the program were distributed across the state, and the first tier of the selection process was completed in August, with 24 teachers selected as 2012 Ashland Inc. Teacher Achievement Award winners. To read the bios of the 24 TAA winners, visit the education section of Ashland Inc.'s website.

Nine top scorers – three each from the elementary, middle and high school levels – were selected, and teams of educators visited their classrooms to view them at work and to conduct personal interviews. From those nine, three were selected as 2012 Kentucky Teachers of the Year. The selection of the overall Kentucky Teacher of the Year was based on a compilation of scores from all phases of judging.

Ashland has recognized outstanding Kentucky teachers with its Teacher Achievement Awards since 1988. Approximately \$631,500 has been awarded to more than 425 teachers of grades K to 12.

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