

## MCAE Honors Outstanding Individuals from Adult Basic Education

**Press Advisory**  
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**For Immediate Release**  
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Boston, MA: In honor of National Adult Education and Family Literacy week, October 18th -24th, the Massachusetts Coalition for Adult Education (MCAE) is pleased to announce that it is recognizing outstanding students and practitioners in adult basic education at its NETWORK 2009 conference. The awards will be given at the conference during an awards luncheon on Thursday October 22, 2009 at 1:15pm at the Best Western Royal Plaza in Marlborough. "I consider it a great privilege to recognize these wonderful individuals for their great contributions to adult basic education in Massachusetts," said Kenny Tamarkin, MCAE's Executive Director.

**The Outstanding Student Award** is given to a student who has overcome difficult circumstances to pursue adult education. This year's outstanding student recipient is Jessica Faford from the Webster Adult Education Program.

**The Outstanding Volunteer Award** is given to a volunteer who provides exceptional assistance to an individual or classroom. This year MCAE is giving the Outstanding Volunteer Award to two recipients: Jim Bartlett from Literacy Volunteers Massachusetts' Literacy Unlimited program in Framingham; and Sandra Goverman from Literacy Volunteers Massachusetts' Stoughton Public Library program.

**The Outstanding Teacher Award** is given to a teacher who understands the characteristics of an adult learner and actively demonstrates commitment to the field of adult education. This year's outstanding teacher recipient is Patricia Lynn Drake from the Community Learning Center in Cambridge.

**The Outstanding Counselor Award** is given to a counselor who provides exceptional assistance to an individual or classroom. This year's outstanding counselor recipient is Janet Hedlund from the Adult Community Learning Center at Quinsigamond Community College in Worcester.

**The Outstanding Administrator Award** is given to an administrator who has made outstanding contributions towards fostering adult education. This year's outstanding administrator recipient is Kermit Dunkleberg from the Ludlow Adult Learning Center.

**The Special Recognition Award** is given to an individual, organization, business or labor partner whose lifetime contributions to adult education merit special recognition. This year MCAE is giving its Special Recognition Award to two recipients: posthumously to Diane McMullen, Dean of Literacy Services from Bristol Community College; and Tom Mechem, State GED Chief Examiner from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

**The GED High Scorer for 2008** is Yun Li of Shrewsbury. Yun took the test at the Worcester Adult Learning Center.

MCAE is a statewide membership organization of educators, adult students, and others who support equal educational opportunities for adults. MCAE is dedicated to the advancement of adult education through high quality services and professionalism in the field from basic literacy and English for Speakers of Other Languages through transitions to post-secondary education.

Congress declared October 18 - 24, 2009 as National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week. Key sponsor Congressman Jared Polis (D-CO) was joined by Massachusetts Congressmen Michael Capuano, Edward Markey and James McGovern and 23 other co-signers who supported the resolution as a result of literacy advocacy and outreach encouraged by MCAE.

For detailed information regarding each award recipient please contact Kenny Tamarkin from MCAE.

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