OF INTEREST TO TEACHERS

Educational Press Association of America Honors
THE JOURNAL OF ADVENTIST EDUCATION—Again

The Journal of Adventist Education was recently selected as a finalist for the 1998 Distinguished Achievement Awards from the Educational Press Association of America in the One-Theme Issue for Adult Audience category. The entry for which the Journal was honored is the February/March 1997 issue on “School Safety and Conflict Resolution.”

EdPress, organized in 1895, is an independent professional association. Its goal is to improve the quality of educational communications and to advance the aims of education. The annual awards program seeks to honor outstanding achievement and bring international recognition to publications serving children, young adults and the educational publishing industry. This marks the 35th year of the EdPress Awards.

Entries were submitted in three areas: publications for adults, young adults, and children. Impartial panels of specialists judged the entries. This year’s revised guidelines yielded a highly rigorous selection process. No more than four finalists were selected by the judges in each category; in a few categories, no finalists were selected.

“Our awards program has a long and distinguished history and shares in a proud tradition of recognizing, and thus encouraging, excellence in education-oriented publishing,” said Dr. Donald R. Stoll, executive director emeritus, Educational Press Association of America.

Award certificates were presented at the EdPress Awards Banquet on June 5 at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.


“Once again, the Educational Press Association has recognized quality and substance by naming The Journal of Adventist Education a finalist in the One-Theme Issue category,” says Dr. Humberto Rasi, director of the General Conference Department of Education, which sponsors the Journal.

“We’re proud of the outstanding work that Beverly Rumble and her colleagues perform in publishing first-class articles to strengthen Adventist education around the world.”

The current issue for which the Journal was honored deals with a variety of timely topics related to school safety and conflict resolution, including safety and security planning for schools, helping students avoid being victimized by crime, addressing TV violence in the classroom, dealing with bullies, discipline that encourages self-control, conflict resolution techniques, and legal issues relating to school liability. Paul Plummer, then professor of education at Pacific Union College in Angwin, California, was the coordinator for the issue.

Correction

Biographical information was inadvertently omitted for Henry Zuil’s article, “A Christian Approach to Teaching Ecology... or Is It Environmental Science?” in the April-May 1998 issue of the Journal. It should have read: “Henry Zuil is Professor of Biology in the Division of Science and Mathematics at Union College, Lincoln, Nebraska.”
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Guidelines for Teacher Development

The U.S. Department of Education has recently released Toward Better Teaching: Professional Development in 1993-94, which examines various aspects of professional development: content, participation, duration, topics, support, and results.

According to the principles set forth by the department, high-quality professional development:

- focuses on teachers as central to student learning, yet includes all members of the school;
- focuses on individual, collegial, and organizational improvement;
- respects and nurtures the intellectual and leadership capacity of teachers, principals, and others in the community;
- reflects the best available research and practice in teaching, learning, and leadership; and
- enables teachers to develop further expertise in subject content and teaching strategies.

The report is available from New Orders, Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954, Stock No. 065-000-01166-2, and costs $14.—National Center for Education Statistics Announcement, August 1998.

Free Details on Donated Supplies for Schools

Educators can receive free details on a nonprofit program that has provided more than $1 billion worth of new, donated supplies to schools and charities during the past 21 years. U.S. businesses contribute their new, overstock merchandise and receive a federal income tax deduction. Donated goods include office supplies, computer software and accessories; classroom materials; books; audio and video tapes; clothing, toys, and games; arts and crafts items; janitorial products; hand tools and hardware; and holiday party goods.

Recipient schools pay dues ranging from $375 to $575, plus shipping and handling, but the merchandise itself is free. School administrators choose what they need from 250-page catalogs issued every 10 weeks. According to the program coordinator, members receive an average of $2,500 worth of new goods per catalog. Schools are guaranteed to get at least twice their membership dues in merchandise; if not, their dues are refunded or they can get a second comparable membership free. For a free fact kit, call the nonprofit National Association for the Exchange of Industrial Resources (NAEIR) at (800) 562-0955.

Geography Booklet for Parents

Helping Your Child Learn Geography includes a variety of ways for parents of 5- to 10-year-olds to help their children learn the principles of this important subject.

The booklet includes:

- An excerpt from the new geography standards, telling in plain language what skills a fourth-grader can and should master;
- New activities designed to help youngsters master the skills set forth in the standards;
- All new maps and art;
- Updated resources including free or inexpensive materials, story books and atlases, Internet resources, and computer software and CD-ROMs.

The National Geographic Society and the U.S. Geological Survey contributed to the updated booklet.

To order the 32-page booklet, send your name, address, and 50 cents per copy to Consumer Information Center, Dept 372D, Pueblo, CO 81009. The booklet is also available via the Internet at: http://www.ed.gov/pubs/parents/Geography/index.html.