

**Kansas Equity and Access  
LEADERSHIP AWARDS**



***Kansans for Equal Access to Transition Services***

**Nominations Deadline: March 31, 2014**

Nominating statements are invited regarding schools, education professionals, agencies, or districts whose solutions are helping multicultural Kansas youth achieve successful transitions to post-secondary settings.

***Nominations are judged according to best practices:***

1. Informed consent of parents includes info provided in their primary language.
2. School personnel advocate for civil rights of their undocumented immigrant students.
3. Parents are treated as equal partners, with effective cross-cultural collaboration between parents and staff.
4. Every IEP at every age incorporates heritage and language data to impact curricular decisions.
5. Cultural and linguistic heritage of student and family is counted as a strength for developing goals, objectives, skills.
6. Personal career goals emanate from the student's own interests and family preferences, respecting their heritage.
7. Building administrators establish connections with non-white leaders to be included as speakers, mentors, role models.
8. Transition teams incorporate social interaction skills and involvement in self-advocacy as central features of the IEP.
9. Transition teams address cultural and linguistic heritages in developing curricula to build community-participation and communication/social skills.
10. Schools and districts are recognized and honored for excellence and innovation in meeting multicultural needs of students in transition planning and services.

Nominations to: [Awards@KEATSKs.org](mailto:Awards@KEATSKs.org) / 785-236-8158 / [www.keatsks.org](http://www.keatsks.org)

Dear Kansas educator:

This note is written for the purpose of asking your help with a very important initiative: the KANSAS EQUITY AND ACCESS LEADERSHIP AWARDS. In the past two years, these awards have been presented to Topeka High School, Families Together of Garden City, and Kansas LULAC.

Culturally and linguistically diverse young people of high school age across the state of Kansas have lower graduation rates and fewer options as they enter adulthood than their non-diverse peers. However, there are schools and districts where conscientious teachers and staff from related services are providing a supportive network for students and families through strategic and innovative practices to improve transition outcomes for Kansas youth.

The following members of the KEATS Awards Panel will study all nominations received through March 31, 2014, (send to: kceatsawards@eslminiconf.net or call 785-236-8158) and the panel then brings forward recommendations for one or more schools, agencies, or professionals to be honored as Kansas Equity and Access Leadership Award winners for 2014-2015.

**The KEATS Awards Panel**

**Dr. Katherine Sprott**

Coordinator of Professional Development, Midwest Equity Assistance Center, Kansas State University

**Melanie McKay-Cody**

Doctoral Student in Linguistic Anthropology, Univ. of Kansas

**Dr. Robin Morales Cabral**

Director, Student Support Services, Wichita Public Schools

**Heather Giselle Scott**

Social Worker and Paralegal, New York City

**David B. Hopkins**

Professional Development Coordinator, Department of English Language Studies, King Saud University-Riyadh

**Monty Thompson**

Owner and Operator, Mantra Designs, Lamar, Colorado

**Raynor Stuart Roberts**

Manager, Founder, Urban Education Partnership of MD, LLC

Thanking you in advance,



Dr. Robert Bruce Scott, KEATS Director