



The Silicon Valley Engineering Council

KEEPER OF THE FLAME AWARD

*For promoting high standards of content and rigor in
Math, Science, and Technology Education*



Purpose of the Award

Recently, the content of middle school/high school mathematics and science courses have come under attack. Some text books, courses and educational philosophy fail to provide students with the proper mathematical skills. The education system sometimes focuses on test scores to the exclusion of student understanding and protecting some students with difficulties learning math to the detriment of other students. Science education can also suffer due to an “anti science movement.” This includes attacks on what scientists do, how they affect society and the scientific method of reaching objective truth. There is also a general trend for students to select careers in their post high-school education that lures them further away from these subjects.

However, there are many teachers who still recognize that their job is to teach mathematics and science skills which maintain a rigorous understanding of science and mathematics in their students and motivate them to participate by making these subjects more interesting. These teachers display great integrity to ensure that their students actually learn mathematics and science which prepares students for further engineering and science education.

The SVEC Keeper of the Flame award recognizes and honors those heroes of middle school to high school education who have distinguished themselves as Keepers of the Flame of knowledge by maintaining high standards of content and rigor in mathematics, science and technology instruction in the face of significant challenges. This award is not intended just to recognize outstanding teaching ability, but also recognizes the ability to make these subjects more interesting. SVEC wishes to recognize teachers who take on the challenge of student achievement and participation in mathematics, science and technology while overcoming current trends that lure students away to other more glamorous subjects and the difficulty caused by general tightened funding situation in our education system. Not having enough engineers and scientists will ultimately make our nation less competitive in the world.

The award will consist of a plaque and a cash grant of \$500 (five hundred dollars), both to be given directly to the winning teacher. The award funds are to be used by the teacher for educational purposes. Each year, up to two teachers will be recognized.

Awards Committee

The granting of awards under this program will be based on the criteria identified below, with specifics of the selection process to be determined by Keeper of the Flame Awards Committee of four members, comprised of:

- *The SVEC Board member who is currently serving as SVEC Education Director,*
- *A member of the Executive Committee of Silicon Valley Engineering Council appointed by the SVEC President, and*
- *Two at-large educator-representatives to be selected by the SVEC Executive Board. These two individuals must be active science, math, technology and/or pre-engineering teachers in the middle and high school system.*

(Unresolved tie votes within the Awards Committee will be decided by the SVEC President.)

Timeline

The 2011 applications are due on Oct. 31, 2011. The award will be announced and awarded at the SVEC Annual Open House Nov. 17, 2011. It is expected that the award recipient will attend the Open House as the guest of SVEC. For more information on the Open House please visit <http://www.svec.org>

Silicon Valley Engineering Council
Keeper of the Flame Award

Nomination Form for 2011 {Deadline Oct. 31, 2011}

Nominee Information:

Name:	Today's date:
Address:	Home Phone:
City/State/Zip:	Work Phone:
School:	Email:
Teaching Area:	Grade levels:
Member of Engineering / Technical Society (chapter):	

Nominator Information:

Name:	Today's date:
Address:	Home Phone:
City/State/Zip:	Work Phone:
Title:	Email:

Awards Eligibility and Criteria

The Silicon Valley Engineering Council Keeper of the Flame Award recognizes and supports outstanding teachers in the middle school to high schools whose programs maintain rigorous standards of performance and student participation in mathematics and science in the face of significant challenges. Teachers in Engineering, Sciences, Mathematics, and Technology may be nominated.

Nominees must live or work within the SVEC region of service (See <http://www.svec.org>). The selection of awardees under this program will consider the following factors. The nominee must demonstrate:

- *A commitment to high standards of achievement in mathematics, science, technology and engineering problem solving that extend beyond the classroom and has maintained these standards in the face of significant challenges*
- *The teaching of mathematics, science and technology fundamentals to develop problem solving providing an effective balance of theory and practice,*
- *Strong academic performance as shown by academic degrees, professional presentations and contributions,*
- *Strong recommendations from fellow faculty, students, and/or supervisors,*
- *Involvement in the promotion of professional and/or student activities, student competitions, or projects,*
- *Involvement in community and/or social services activities,*
- *Innovative approaches to inviting student participation and involvement*

Keep these factors in mind while completing this nomination.

Please provide the names of several persons who will provide recommendations for this nominee:

Name:	Email:
Position/Title:	Phone:
Name:	Email:
Position/Title:	Phone:
Name:	Email:
Position/Title:	Phone:

Granting of Awards

The Keeper of the Flame award will be presented at the SVEC Annual Open House November 17, 2011. It is expected that the award recipient will attend the Open House as the guest of SVEC. He or she may be invited to make a short (2-3 minute) statement about his/her work.

Essay

Nominee: Please write a short essay (no more than 500 words or two double-spaced typed pages) describing your educational philosophy and commitment to mathematics and/or science education, as well as how you work to achieve high standards of student achievement and participation, focusing on how you overcome barriers to keeping your standards high and your students motivated. The essay must be typed, attached to this application, include the nominee's name and address, and be dated and signed.

Resume/Vita

Please attach a copy of your current resume or curriculum vita. List below the courses you teach in engineering, pre-engineering, and/or technology (you may attach additional labeled pages if necessary).

Course & Title

Please describe any professional and/or student activities, student competitions, or projects that you support or promote, including title or description, date, and nature of your involvement (you may attach additional labeled pages if necessary).

Please describe any volunteer or service work you do at your school or in your community (you may attach additional labeled pages if necessary).

Submit this application with attachments by October 31, 2011, to:

Jack Jew, SVEC Keeper of the Flame Committee Chair, 801 Ticonderoga Dr, Sunnyvale, CA 94087
You may also email a copy in Microsoft Word format to speed processing to: jack.jew@lmco.com
Be sure to mail the original in any case. Jack's FAX number is 408 742-0290 (FAX is not preferred because the documents must be circulated to KOF committee for review).