Eligibility: All active GVATA/NAAE members, except current members of the NAAE board of directors, are eligible to enter. Each applicant must have been a GVATA/NAAE member the three (3) previous years or continuously since he/she began teaching. GVATA/NAAE members who are in their third, fourth, fifth, sixth, or seventh year of teaching at the time they apply at the national level are eligible for this award. Individuals may receive this award only once.

Required Components of the Application:

1. Narrative – the narrative is limited to eight 8 1/2” x 11” pages. The narrative must be typewritten. Use a font no smaller than 12 points. Multiple text formats are acceptable, including paragraphs, lists, and tables. The narrative must follow the outline specified as follows:
   a. Overview – brief description of your agricultural education program and the community in which your program exists. (10%)
   b. Teaching Philosophy – a brief reflective statement (not to exceed one page) of your personal teaching philosophy. (10%)
   c. Instruction – examples of your effective classroom and laboratory instruction including curricula you have developed. (15%)
   d. Experiential Learning – examples of your accomplishments in getting students involved in work-based learning such as supervised agricultural experience programs, cooperative education, and internships. (15%)
   e. Leadership Development – examples of your accomplishments in developing leadership skills of your students. Students’ participation and successes in student organization activities, such as FFA, PAS, and NYFEA but not limited to these organizations may also be included. (15%)
   f. Partnerships – examples of your relationships with partners such as volunteers, school and community leaders, industry leaders, and others who have the capacity to support your agricultural education program. (10%)
   g. Marketing – examples of how you market (or promote) your local program with groups such as prospective students, parents, school administrators, and community leaders. (10%)
   h. Professional Growth – examples of how you stay professionally prepared and up-to-date in teaching techniques and technical content including information regarding your participation in professional organizations such as NAAE and programs offered by NAAE including Communities of Practice. (15%)
2. Letters of Reference – one letter of reference. The letter of reference should be from the applicant’s direct supervisor (principal, Career Tech Director, etc.). The letter of reference is not considered in the page limitations.

3. Supporting Materials – the supporting materials are limited to eight 8 1/2” x 11” pages and saved in a format that can be uploaded to the online application if selected as the state winner. Supporting materials (such as photographs with captions, news articles, and other items) must be formatted to 8 1/2” x 11”. Evaluation of supporting materials will be included with the evaluation of the components of the narrative (2.a.-2.h. above)

4. Application Signature Sheet – the application signature page must be signed by the requested individuals and attached to the narrative and other application documents. The application signature page can be found on page 3 of this document.

State-level Competition:

When and Where to Submit: Entries must be submitted to the state association by the deadline established by the state association. Applications are due to your Area GVATA Director by April 15th. Evaluation Procedures: Each respective state association will determine the selection process for state winners.

National-level Competition:

What to Submit: All required components of the application must be submitted online by May 15. No printed or emailed applications will be accepted.
When and Where to Submit: The online application and instructions can be found at http://www.naae.org/resources/awards/index.cfm State presidents will authenticate program participants using the NAAE State Winners’ Validation Form provided to them by NAAE. All state program participants must be authenticated by May 15.

NOTE: Regional winners must agree to attend and participate in the entire NAAE convention. All state winners must be authenticated by May 15.
Photograph License & Publicity Release

By submitting and signing this application, the applicant hereby agrees to the following terms and conditions regarding any photographs submitted to NAAE as supporting materials for such application.

License – By submitting any photographs to NAAE with this application, applicant hereby grants to NAAE a fully paid, perpetual, irrevocable, royalty free, world-wide non-exclusive license to display, distribute, sublicense, reproduce, modify, adapt and publish such photographs on NAAE’s website and in any other materials used to promote NAAE.

Consent & Authorization – Applicant hereby irrevocably consents and authorizes NAAE, and its successors and assigns, to use any photographs submitted with this application for the purpose of promoting NAAE. Applicant further hereby releases NAAE, and its officers, directors, agents, members, employees, successors and assigns, from any and all claims for damages for libel, infringement of the right of publicity, invasion of privacy, portrayal in a false light, or any other claim based on the use of any photographs submitted with this application.

Representations & Warranties – Applicant hereby represents and warrants that he/she has the power and authority to grant the rights licensed to NAAE in this application and that the use, copying, distributing, displaying, reproducing, modifying, adapting, and sublicensing of any photographs submitted with this application does not result in the infringement of any copyright, trademark, patent, or other intellectual property right of another. Applicant further represents and warrants that he/she has obtained the consent and authorization for the use of any photographs submitted with this application from all persons shown in such photographs or from the guardian of any persons under the age of eighteen (18) shown in such photographs.

Indemnification – Applicant hereby indemnifies and holds harmless NAAE, and its officers, directors, agents, members, employees, successors and assigns from any loss, liability, claim or demand, including reasonable attorney’s fees, made by any third party due to or in any way relating to the use of any photographs submitted with this application or any breach of any of the representations and warranties contained in this application.

If named as a Teacher Turn the Key participant, I will attend and participate in the entire NAAE Convention. Also, by signing this I agree to the Photograph License & Publicity Release above.

Signed:

_____________________________________________  __________________
Applicant’s Signature                                  Date

If this teacher is selected as the Region Award Winner, he/she will be permitted to attend the entire NAAE convention.

_____________________________________________  __________________
School Official (including signature and title)        Date