



Hands-On Discovery  
for Young Children

## 2nd ANNUAL HABITOT CHILDREN'S MUSEUM'S "PRESCHOOL TEACHERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE" AWARDS

### Recognizing the Outstanding Contributions of Early Childhood Educators in the Bay Area



Habitot invites parents, teachers and advocates for early childhood education to join us in recognizing the enormous contributions of preschool teachers in the Bay Area and the importance of a quality preschool experience. Preschool teachers nurture curiosity and confidence in young children, build their social and emotional skills, inspire their imaginations, and open the doors to lifelong learning.

Habitot's "PRESCHOOL TEACHERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE" Awards will be given to ten outstanding preschool educators this spring. The contest coincides with Habitot's 12th Birthday in April and the national Week of the Young Child. The "PRESCHOOL TEACHERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE" honorees will be recognized at a 'Back to School' celebration hosted by Habitot Children's Museum on Monday, September 20, 2010.

#### ELIGIBILITY

Nominations are open to all preschool teachers in the nine Bay Area counties.

Nominees **must** meet all following criteria:

- Be currently working a minimum of 30 hours per week in a licensed, center-based or a family childcare setting.
- Teach in one of the nine Bay Area counties.
- Have taught in the field of early childhood education for a minimum of three years.
- Be nominated by a person affiliated with the preschool (e.g. colleague, administrator, parent of a student).
- Be a provider in good standing with no active contractual infractions and/or recent state licensing violations (within the last six months).

#### AWARDS

Each of the eleven honorees will receive:

- A \$100 school supply catalog gift certificate.
- A FREE preschool class field trip to Habitot Children's Museum (up to 15 students ~a \$130 value)
- One Habitot annual Family Membership (a \$140 value) which may be offered at a fundraising auction or used personally

In addition, each of the winning nominators will receive:

- One Habitot annual Family Membership (a \$140 value)



## SELECTION CRITERIA

- The reviewers will look for evidence of enthusiasm and dedication to bringing out the best in young children; joy, empathy and creativity in teaching and working with young children, parents and colleagues; impact on children, and the overall persuasiveness of the nominator's statement. Habitot reserves the right to award more than eleven nominees.
- Each official nominee application must include:
  - A complete **NOMINATION FORM**. Incomplete forms will not be considered.
  - A complete, verified and signed **NOMINATOR'S STATEMENT**.  
The Nominating Statement must not exceed 500 words.

## SELECTION PROCESS

Applications will be reviewed by a panel of educators and early childhood education advocates.

- Incomplete nominations will not be submitted to the review panel.
- Nominees who do not meet all eligibility requirements will not be submitted to the review panel.
- No materials or information other than the nomination form and the nominator's statement will be considered.
- Only one application per individual nominee, randomly selected in the event of multiple nominations, will be reviewed.
- If a reviewer has a personal relationship with any nominee, he or she will not make a recommendation on that nominee.
- Each reviewer may recommend up to fifteen nominees but may recommend fewer.
- The eleven eligible nominees who receive the greatest number of recommendations from the panel of reviewers will receive awards.

## IMPORTANT DATES

- March 29, 2010 – Nomination period opens.
- May 29, 2010 – Nominations due; must be postmarked, faxed or emailed to Habitot Children's Museum no later than 5:00 p.m.
- June 18, 2010 – Award winners notified.
- September 20, 2010 – 'Back to School' Celebration event to recognize award winners.





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### NOMINATION FORM

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of Preschool where teacher works \_\_\_\_\_

School Type (check all that apply):

- Center-based program
- Head Start / Early Head Start
- School district affiliated
- Affiliated with religious institution
- Licensed Family / Home Day Care
- Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

Preschool's Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Preschool's email address \_\_\_\_\_

County in which preschool is located \_\_\_\_\_

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Preschool's website \_\_\_\_\_

If known, please provide:

Teacher's E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's cell or home phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's total number years teaching preschool \_\_\_\_\_

Number of hours teacher currently teaches per/week \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Gender:  Male  Female

This teacher has no active contractual infractions  
and/or recent state licensing violations (within the last six months).  True  False



Nominator's Name \_\_\_\_\_

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**Home Address**

\_\_\_\_\_

City

\_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_

Cell / Work / Home Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address

**Relationship to Nominee** (Please check one):

Colleague

School Administrator

Parent of student

**Nominating Statement**

In 500 words or less (no more than 1 page in 12 pt font), please tell the reviewers how this teacher has made a difference in the life of a child, or the lives of young children at this school. Stories are welcome – please give the reader enough context to understand the teacher's actions/behavior and the children being impacted. You may describe the teacher's special qualities, curriculum developed, special activities conducted, meaningful relationships forged, comments from child(ren), evidence of children or parents mentored, teachers trained, funds raised, programs launched or any other tangible or intangible reason you believe this teacher should be honored. Your statement should answer the question, "how has this teacher made a positive difference in the lives of young children" and explain how you know this to be true.

**Verification**

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the statements contained in this nomination application accurately reflect the individual being nominated. I further authorize Habitot Children's Museum to publicize this information.

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**Signature of nominator**

\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name and Title, if appropriate

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

**Mail, Fax or Email Application to:**

Habitot Children's Museum

"PRESCHOOL TEACHERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE"

Attn: Lauren Levin

PMB 326 • 1563 Solano Ave. • Berkeley CA 94707

**Fax:** (510) 647-1110

**Email:** [dassoc@habitot.org](mailto:dassoc@habitot.org)

**Questions?** Call Lauren at (510) 647-1111 x 31

