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# NEWS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE!

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## LOCAL MIDDLE LEVEL STUDENTS RECEIVE PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ students at  
\_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, RI, were recently  
honored Middle Level Scholar Leaders at a Banquet on May 12, 2015 at the West Valley Inn, West Warwick, RI.  
The students were presented with an award whose criteria included demonstrating academic initiative and  
scholarship, providing service to classmates and school, exemplifying positive attitudes and demonstrating  
leadership in the classroom and school activities.

Over 300 students, educators, and parents attended this Banquet to celebrate the achievements of the middle level students who are representative of the many fine young adolescents in all middle level schools in the State of Rhode Island. Sixty-nine students from 35 schools were honored at the Sixteenth Annual Middle Level Scholar Leader Awards Banquet. The Keynote Speakers at the Banquet were Scholar Leader Award recipients Ailill Smith from Westerly Middle School and Jessica Marasco from Monsignor Matthew F. Clarke School. Patricia Marcotte, RIMLE President; William Fasano, RIMLE Executive Director; Mary Jean Fawcett, New England League of Middle Schools Acting Executive Director; Barbara Cottam, Chair of the Rhode Island Board of Education and Steve Osborn, RIDE Chief, Division of Accelerating School Performance spoke at the Banquet. Senators Jack Reed and Sheldon Whitehouse, Congressmen James Langevin and David Cicilline and Governor Gina Riamondo provided official citations for each student at this year's event. The event was organized by the Rhode Island Middle Level Educators (RIMLE) and the New England League of Middle Schools (NELMS) with a supporting sponsorship from Lifetouch National School Studios.

# **RHODE ISLAND**

## **MIDDLE LEVEL SCHOOLS SCHOLAR LEADER AWARDS PROGRAM**

### **2015 Selection Criteria**

All decisions concerning selection have a certain subjective element. However, the Rhode Island Middle Level Educators and the New England League of Middle Schools urge schools to follow the recommended criteria described below. Procedures for selection used at the school must be fair, non-discriminatory, and consistently applied.

It is suggested that two students, one male and one female, be selected from the eighth grade (unless the school has all female or all male students). Seventh grade student recipients are appropriate if that is the highest grade in your school.

The following criteria are suggested:

- Excellent attitude towards learning
- Provides service to classmates and school
- Is a positive role model for peers
- Takes responsibility for own behavior and learning

These additional indicators may be of assistance:

- ✓ Exercises influence on peers in upholding school ideals
- ✓ Contributes ideas that improve the civic life of the school
- ✓ Shows leadership in group situations
- ✓ Shows respect for self and others
- ✓ Exemplifies positive attitudes and inspires positive behavior in others
- ✓ Demonstrates academic initiative and is willing to uphold scholarship
- ✓ Demonstrates leadership in the classroom and school activities
- ✓ Is dependable in any responsibility undertaken
- ✓ Volunteers and is gladly available and willing to sacrifice to offer assistance to others
- ✓ Accepts criticism willingly and recommendations graciously
- ✓ Exemplifies desirable qualities of character and integrity