

Harold B. Stonehouse Mini-Grants, for K-12 Earth Science Teachers

The *Mission* of National Earth Science Teachers Association (NESTA) is to facilitate and advance excellence in Earth and Space Science education. NESTA's *Purpose Statement* includes: the stimulation, extension, improvement, and coordination of Earth Science education at all educational levels. As one means to achieve this goal, NESTA is offering two mini-grants to K-12 teachers of Earth Science to support classroom innovation.

The Harold B. Stonehouse Mini-Grants, for K-12 Earth Science Teachers are mini-grants of up to \$500, given to educators to support student-centered Earth Science activities. The grant program is named in honor of Dr. Harold B. Stonehouse, a founding member of NESTA and its very first Executive Advisor.

The purpose of these grants is to support innovative Earth Science ideas in K - 12 classrooms. Beginning in 2015, two grants may be awarded to selected NESTA member applicants. Award amounts will not exceed \$500 and the application deadline is Oct 31. The grant application can be downloaded at [http:// www.nestanet.org](http://www.nestanet.org)

Guidelines for the Harold B. Stonehouse Mini-Grants, for K-12 Earth Science Teachers

- Applicant must be a member of NESTA prior to applying for a Stonehouse Mini-Grant. If necessary, you can join through the NESTA website at <http://www.nestanet.org/cms/content/store/membership>
- Grant applications must clearly include educational content that promotes Earth Science and the stated purposes of NESTA. Applications must show a clear correlation with the current national science standards.
- Grant awardees are expected to share the outcome of their project with other educators in one of the following two ways:
 1. By writing and submitting an article about their project, intended inclusion in the NESTA's journal, *The Earth Scientist* (TES).
 2. By making a presentation about their project at an NSTA Area, or National science teacher's conference. This presentation could be included at one of NESTA's Share-a-thons.

Information for all applicants:

- Grant applications are reviewed and awarded on a competitive basis. Two grants may be awarded per year. (Additional grants may be awarded at the discretion of the NESTA Board of Directors.) The Review Committee is comprised of members of the NESTA Board of Directors. Applications will be reviewed by the end of July. Announcement of awards will be made by Nov 30.

- Applications can be for interdisciplinary or team teaching projects, however, the content emphasis must be Earth Science.
- Applications need to be geared to those activities not currently supported by existing funds, or which are not part of a school district's financial responsibility. **Stipends and transportation costs will not be funded.** Preferably, funding will be used for something that, once secured or purchased, can be used in an ongoing fashion, from year to year.
- Funds requested must play a key role in the success of the program, and cannot exceed \$500.
- The grant application can be downloaded at [http:// www.nestanet.org](http://www.nestanet.org)
- The grant application must be submitted electronically, to Tom Ervin, at [tombervin@gmail .com](mailto:tombervin@gmail.com)
- Also provide a letter of support from your principal or administrator. This letter must be scanned and attached to your grant application when submitted.
- Grant awards for approved applications will be made directly to applicants. Grant funds must be expended within the school year the application was approved. Instructions for record keeping and reporting will accompany the Grant check.
- Approved grant applicants are responsible for submitting a final progress and expense report, for which instructions will be provided to grant awardees.
- For more information go to NESTA at [http:// www.nestanet.org](http://www.nestanet.org)