



Staten Island Advance

March 12, 2014

Nominations sought for awards honoring Staten Island distinguished teachers

By CLAIRE M. REGAN

Do you know an educator who goes above and beyond the call of duty?

Nominations are being accepted for the Wagner College Distinguished Educator Awards, honoring teachers and school leaders who demonstrate extraordinary commitment and a passion for the profession.

The awards are sponsored by New Educators at Wagner, a post-graduate teacher development program that fosters learning among early-career educators. NEW was created six years ago by Carin Guarasci, a longtime educator and the wife of Richard Guarasci, Wagner's president since 2002.

"When we came to Staten Island, Richard and I didn't feel there was enough recognition for teachers," Mrs. Guarasci explained, adding she knows from experience how challenging the work can be inside a successful school.

"It's not easy being a teacher or principal," she said. Good teachers "devote their lives to this difficult job as a personal mission."

Nominees for the Distinguished Educator Award must be either a Wagner College graduate or an educator who lives or works on Staten Island.

The nominee must also have five or more years of experience as a K-12 teacher or principal; be an educator whose reach extends well beyond the school walls; and inspire youths to make a difference in their own lives and/or the lives of others.

The nomination can be submitted by letter or email and should include the nominee's name, school, position and address with an explanation of how he or she meets the criteria; the nominator's contact information and relation to the nominee, and a summary of what makes the nominee a distinguished educator.

Nominations can be sent to the Wagner College Education Department, Attention New Educator Awards, One Campus Road, Staten Island, N.Y. 10301. The email address is neweducatorawards@wagner.edu.

An advisory committee assembled by Mrs. Guarasci will make final selections. Three awards will be presented during a ceremony on June 4 at Wagner College.

For information, call 718-390-3464. The deadline for nominations is April 1.