

## Promising Practices in Character Education Announced for 2017

### Hundreds of effective strategies that develop good character in young people are recognized

May 17, 2017, Washington, D.C. – Character.org has awarded 300 Promising Practices to schools, districts and youth-serving organizations from across the United States – as well as from China and Mexico.

"At Character.org, we are extremely proud of this year's Promising Practices recipients. Their dedication to character development has proven over time to increase the well-being of so many students, their families and their communities across the United States and beyond," said Doug Karr, Character.org's President & CEO. He continued, "Validating character initiatives is at the core of what we do because it creates fertile conditions for multi-generational character growth where students and those in their lives thrive as ethical members of our society. The educators who have developed these Promising Practices are helping their students develop lifelong skillsets that they will leverage well into their adult lives."

This year's winning practices include unique peer mediation programs, creative ways to integrate character and academic subjects, effective strategies for developing student leadership and service learning activities that build community within the school and beyond. [See the list of winning Practices.](#)

Character.org's 2017 Promising Practices in Character Education represent:

- 2 nations outside the U.S.
- 22 U.S. states and Washington, D.C. – with the largest numbers from New Jersey, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina, Florida and Oklahoma.
- 284 public, charter and private schools as well as 7 youth-serving organizations and 8 school districts.

Character.org sponsors the annual program to showcase innovative best practices that are having an impact across the nation and abroad. Character.org encourages educators with similar needs to learn from and even replicate these successful initiatives. Character.org will honor the 2017 recipients at the National Forum on Character Education in Arlington, VA October 20-21, 2017.

**About Character.org:** Founded in 1993, Character.org is a national nonprofit based in Washington, D.C. The mission of the organization is to provide leadership and advocacy for character worldwide. It is dedicated to help people everywhere become educated, inspired and empowered to be ethical and compassionate citizens. Character.org validates character initiatives in schools, sports, families and the workplace through certifications and sharing of best practices. Results of effective character initiatives in schools typically include improved academic achievement, a decline in behavioral problems and an increase in an overall positive school climate.

**About Promising Practices:** The Promising Practices program highlights what's going well in classrooms across America and the world. The program is simple in scope and recognizes many wonderful ideas from passionate teachers who are making a real difference in the lives of their students. Each Practice must be tied to one or more of Character.org's *11 Principles of Effective Character Education*.