

# ISTE news

## Jolaine's Joy Complete

As we mentioned in our February 2006 ISTE News story (*L&L*, p. 8), additional winners of the Jolaine's Joy award program were being determined. The fund was established in memory of Jolaine Harbour, an educational technology professional who died in August 2004. At the request of Harbour and her family, ISTE awarded five deserving students from her hometown of Lafayette, Louisiana, \$1,000 each in computer hardware and software. Those winners were named and celebrated in a ceremony in January 2006, in the Lafayette Parish School System office in Lafayette.

Dr. Lajeane Thomas presented the awards. Thomas, a professor of curriculum, instruction, and leadership at

Louisiana Tech University, is the chair of ISTE's Accreditation Committee. She has been a long-time ISTE member and was the driving force behind the development of ISTE's National Educational Technology Standards (NETS).

According to Thomas, "Along with the rest of Lafayette, our winners have experienced far too much hardship over the past five months. I hope we are bringing a little bit of joy to the lives of these exceptional students. Access to a home computer will help with day-to-day schoolwork and prepare our winners for high school or college. It will also enable younger brothers



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and sisters to access early learning resources and will provide parents with an opportunity to learn valuable workplace skills."

Congratulations to the final winners of the Jolaine's Joy awards:

- Kendall James Dugas, Grade 6, Broussard Middle School
- Desmond Fuselier, Grade 8, N.P. Moss Middle School
- Raven Jones, Grade 8, N.P. Moss Middle School
- Janae Morgan, Grade 7, N.P. Moss Middle School
- Anastatia Simien, Grade 12, Northside High School

## Plans for NECC 2006 Are Heating Up!

Although July may seem very far away, ISTE's conference team is working hard to make the NECC 2006 experience in San Diego, California, one to remember. Recognizing some unique opportunities because of this year's location, the program committee is planning to offer Spanish presentations of 13 concurrent sessions and up to five Global Gallery sessions at each Global Gallery time slot.

According to Kathy Hayden, assistant professor of educational technology at California State University-San Marcos and the coordinator from this year's cooperating organization, California CUE, "We identified a theme targeting the use of technology to support English language learner needs in collaboration with regional leaders for the NECC 2006 program. A regional

team is collaborating to develop this strand, including sessions to be presented in Spanish. Educators, parents, and community members from our border regions with Mexico can come together during the conference to share best practices and issues targeting our schools today."

Daryl Stermon, technology coordinator for the San Diego County Office of Education and the NECC 2006 Regional Workshop Chair, acknowledges that many conferences take place in San Diego, but a special feature of NECC 2006 that places it "a large step above the others" is that it will address the needs of both countries.

The Spanish language sessions and activities will focus on:

- Technology-supported English language learning

- Technology-supported Spanish language learning
- Technology-supported content learning in Spanish
- ICT curriculum in Spanish
- Technology-supported bicultural curriculum and projects

In case you've forgotten to register, now is the time to visit <http://www.iste.org/necc> to register for the conference and reserve housing. The Super Early-Bird conference registration deadline is March 31. If you've already done that part, you can now revisit the Web site to register for workshops, tours, forums, symposia, and other special events.

Also, there is still time to submit proposals for Birds-of-a-Feather, Student Showcase, and Global Gallery sessions. The proposal deadline is March 15, 2006.