

Get Involved



ISTE has recently launched a new volunteer program designed especially for members to take advantage of an array of volunteer opportunities. "There are so many ways to contribute, and every volunteer hour makes a difference," said Jennifer Ragan-Fore, ISTE's General Membership Director. "ISTE volunteers are role models in the educational community, donating their time, energy, and talent to provide leadership and service to improve teaching and learning whether they are serving on the ISTE Board, mentoring a new member, hosting educator socials in Second Life, or involved with one of the many Special Interest Groups." Volunteering with ISTE can help you:

- build your leadership, project management, and technology skills
- develop a strong peer network
- gain insight and experience with trends and new ideas in ed tech
- influence the activities of your professional association and the field
- get recognized for your time and contributions

Once a month, ISTE members will receive a call for participation describing the available volunteer opportunities. Those interested will submit a short volunteer intake survey and be offered activities that match their skill sets and interests.

For more information, contact Terra Sieberman at tsieberman@iste.org or visit <http://www.iste.org/volunteer/>.

New Award from SIGMS



ISTE is pleased to announce the latest addition to its suite of awards. The ISTE SIG Media Specialist Technology Award, sponsored by *Library Media Connection* and *Follett Software Company*, will be presented to two teams composed of a school media specialist and a collaborating teacher who have conducted an exemplary technology program extending beyond the media center to meet the needs of classroom students and teachers. Two teams, one elementary and one secondary, will receive:

- \$1,000 cash award payable to the school media center
- \$500 NECC travel stipend
- free NECC registration
- \$1,000 in professional books from Linworth Publishing
- a one-year subscription to *Library Media Connection*
- a recognition plaque
- a one-year Standard ISTE membership.

Nominations close March 15, 2008. For more information and nomination materials, please visit: <http://www.iste.org/membership/awards> or contact Terra Sieberman at tsieberman@iste.org.

ISTE Proposal in Higher Ed Bill

Chairman George Miller (D-CA) recently released the U.S. House Education Committee's Higher Ed package (H.R. 4143), which includes a proposal developed by ISTE and its SIGTE members. ISTE's Director of Government Affairs Hilary Goldman spearheaded the process and worked with U.S. Congressman Rush Holt (D-NJ) to include it in the legislation.

In a letter of support for the "Preparing Teachers for Digital Age Learners" program, ISTE CEO Don Knezek noted, "it is incumbent on our nation to produce teachers who have the skills and expertise" to help students succeed in a competitive global environment. Learn more at http://www.iste.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=News_and_Events&Template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=18863.

Where in the World Is ISTE?

Most recently, ISTE CEO Don Knezek consulted with education officials and signed a memorandum of understanding for a global forum on technology and innovation to be held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, April 1-3, 2008. Knezek is regularly called on as a key resource by educators and policy-makers from all over the world who seek his advice and support on standards development, the training of teachers and leaders, strategic planning for transformation, and event participation. In recent months, these requests have also come from Singapore, Costa Rica, Malaysia, Finland, and UNESCO officials. Learn more about the Dubai event at <http://www.ameinfo.com/140126.html>.

