

## RON MARDIGIAN MEMORIAL BIOTECHNOLOGY EXPLORER AWARD

SPONSORED BY BIO-RAD LABORATORIES

### PROGRAM SUMMARY

Bio-Rad's Biotechnology Explorer™ Program and the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) have partnered to recognize an outstanding high school teacher who has made biotechnology learning accessible to the classroom. This award has been established in memory of Ron Mardigian, the inspiration behind and founder of the Biotechnology Explorer program.

### AWARD

The award consists of a \$250 monetary gift, a \$500 certificate for Bio-Rad products and up to \$750 in expenses to attend the NSTA National Conference on Science Education. The awardee will be honored at the Teacher Awards Banquet; the awardee and one teacher guest of the awardee will be invited to dinner with members of Bio-Rad's Explorer team.

### ELIGIBILITY

Teachers of biotechnology in grades 9-12, between 3 – 15 years of experience teaching biotechnology.

### AWARD SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applications should reflect National Science Education Standards and must include the following information in the order presented:

- ★ a completed and signed application form;
- ★ a narrative describing how they implement the teaching of biotechnology in the classroom, not to exceed 500 words;
- ★ a summary of an individual research project completed by one of their students, not to exceed 250 words
- ★ a brief description of how their teaching curriculum was modified to meet student needs, not to exceed 250 words;
- ★ a one-page, single-sided, single-spaced vita that includes teaching experience, professional activities, formal and continuing education, awards, and published material;
- ★ three letters of support from individuals and groups who are familiar with the applicant's work. Letters should not exceed three pages each and must accompany packet. Letters sent separately will not be considered. When possible, use letterhead. Make sure letters are signed and dated accordingly. Letters should be written for and refer to applicant's strengths, accomplishments, and the highlights of his or her teaching or administration methods and experiences that directly connect to the application;
- ★ a completed and signed checklist; and
- ★ label each section and number each page.

Upon receipt, applications become the property of NSTA. Applications will not be returned to applicants. Late or faxed applications will not be accepted. All material must be in one envelope. Completed applications must be received by November 30.



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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

How many years have you been a classroom teacher teaching science? \_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade Level? \_\_\_\_\_

When did you begin teaching biotechnology in your classroom? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever received an NSTA award? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, list year \_\_\_\_\_ School Population \_\_\_\_\_

School Type Public Private DoD Urban Rural Suburban

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Principal's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that the applicant is a full-time classroom teacher at the above referenced school, and the program described herein has existed for one year or more and is ongoing. I fully support the submission of this application.

Principal's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Send your original application and supporting materials to:**

Biotechnology Explorer Award  
NSTA  
1840 Wilson Boulevard  
Arlington, VA 22201-3000

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Questions? Please visit our website at [www.nsta.org](http://www.nsta.org) or e-mail [awards@nsta.org](mailto:awards@nsta.org).



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Occasionally we receive entries that are incomplete or in which the applicant did not follow the specified guidelines. Entries that do not follow the stated rules for submission are disqualified, regardless of the merit or innovation of the entry. Make sure you and a colleague review the checklist below before sending in your application so you can ensure that your efforts will not be disqualified. Ensure that your application communicates the information you intend. Don't forget to check for correct spelling. If you have questions regarding your application, please e-mail [awards@nsta.org](mailto:awards@nsta.org).

### Complete the list, sign it, and attach it to your application.

- each entry includes a completed application form signed by you and your principal;
- narrative of application;
- description;
- summary of student research project;
- one-page vita;
- three (3) letters of support;
- application is bound together with a heavy-duty staple or binder clip (no presentation binders); and
- label each section and number each page.

Please be advised that you may apply for more than one award; however, you are eligible to win only one NSTA award per year. Each application must be based on a unique program and process. Submission of the same idea and materials to different NSTA award programs will result in the disqualification of all applications. If your idea or project has received an NSTA award in the past, that idea or project is not eligible to receive an additional award.

If you are selected to receive an award, NSTA must request and receive your social security number to issue a 1099 form to you. If your program is currently grant funded, confirm that you, as an individual, are eligible to receive a cash award. Your application will not be returned and becomes the property of NSTA. If you have received an award for this project from another provider, you must notify NSTA.

If your application is selected to receive an award, NSTA reserves the right to reproduce information/photos/other content in promotional materials and on the NSTA website. By submitting materials that contain images of students and other individuals, you assume complete responsibility for obtaining appropriate release consent forms and permission to transfer these materials to NSTA.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



# NSTA AWARDS – 2011/12

## BioRad Award Official Scoring Guide

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility: \_\_\_\_\_ High School  
Years Taught: \_\_\_\_\_ (biotechnology 3-15 years)

Criteria							Score
Completed application with signature							YES or NO
Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Superior	Weight	Score
Narrative describing the nominee's extraordinary science teaching-500 words.	1	2	3	4	5	X 2	
2 Lesson Plans with examples of student work up to 3 pages @	1	2	3	4	5	X 2	
3 Letters of support up to 3 pages	1	2	3	4	5	X 1	
Vita, up to 2 pages	1	2	3	4	5	X 1	
Effective planning (program goals, curriculum, implementation, execution/outcomes)	1	2	3	4	5	X 1	
Demonstrated impact/engagement of families/community.	1	2	3	4	5	X 1	
Meets proper safety procedures.	1	2	3	4	5	X 2	
Supports biotechnology science education standards.	1	2	3	4	5	X 2	
<b>Total</b>							

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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Judge: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_