

## **2026 NIE EDUCATOR OF THE** YEAR CONTEST

Tell us in 250 words or less how the nominee uses the Tampa Bay Times to enhance student learning and the learning environment with a newspaperbased lesson, activity or project.

## **GRAND PRIZE**

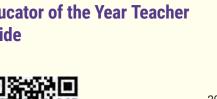
- \$1,500 cash prize
- Grand prize plaque
- Tampa Bay Times prize pack
- Inclusion in the 2026 NIE Educator of the Year Teacher Guide
- Invitation to the 2026 Florida **Media Conference** 
  - Reimbursement for conference lodging and travel
  - Optional opportunity to present to newspapers from around Florida

## **RUNNERS-UP**

- \$300 cash prize
- Runner-up certificate
- · Tampa Bay Times prize pack
- Inclusion in the 2026 NIE **Educator of the Year Teacher** Guide



Scan the QR code





Nominate yourself or a colleague. Administrators, supervisors and parents are also encouraged to nominate!

Entries accepted Jan. 1 – April 1, 2026.



Kristinna Sanchez Science 2025 Grand Prize Winner



Linda Cox Δrt 2022 Grand Prize Winner



Melissa Ivy Media Speciálist 2025 Runner-Up



**Brenda Curtwright** Speech Pathologist 2019 Honorable Mention



Rene Marquis **Culinary Arts** 2018 Runner-Up

Visit tampabay.com/nie and click on Educator of the Year for more information, official rules and to enter.

Eligibility: Educators (teachers, media specialists, paraprofessionals, etc.) of any grade and subject in public and private schools in Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas and Polk counties are eligible to enter.