

1977

Science Activities

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HONORS TO IOWANS

Dave Fagle
Science Coordinator
Marshalltown Community Schools
Marshalltown, Iowa 50158

Two Iowa science educators recently received honors at the National Convention of the National Science Teachers Association held during March, 1977, at Cincinnati, Ohio. These honors were bestowed upon the recipients because of their excellence in teaching and distinguished professional leadership.

Sondra Waltz of Norwalk, Iowa, was awarded honorable mention as runner-up in the CIBA-GEIGY Award for Exemplary Elementary Science Teaching. This award is the top elementary science education award given in the United States each year. CIBA-GEIGY has a long history of interest in science education. This was the second year that this award has been made.

Sondra is a sixth grade teacher with enthusiasm to spare. Her teaching includes unique interest centers, science fairs and a plastic environmental bubble for space and ocean studies. Sondra's professional interests include taxidermy, organizing teacher workshops, presenting professional papers, organizing NSTA Drive-In Conferences and working as a private science consultant. Sondra received Iowa's Award for Excellence in Elementary Science Education in 1976 and she is currently rated as one of the top three elementary teachers in the United States.

On March 27, 1977, Dr. Robert Yager of the University of Iowa was a recipient of the Robert H. Carleton Award for National Leadership in Science Education. The award was presented at the National Banquet of the NSTA. Dr. Yager was cited for his efforts in building the Science Education Center at the University of Iowa, which is one of the largest in the United States.

Dr. Yager has been a leader of Iowa science educators for many years and has been active in the Iowa Academy of Science and many prominent, professional, national organizations. He has authored numerous grant proposals, technical reports, research papers and journal articles. He has directed over 70 institutes and special projects for the National Science Foundation.

Congratulations are in order for both recipients for representing Iowa so well in science education.

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Science Activities

Joe Abruscato and Jack Hassard have just published a booklet entitled *The Whole Cosmos: Catalog of Science Activities*. The booklet is published by Goodyear Publishing Co., 1640 Fifth Street, Santa Monica, California and contains a myriad of simple science activities appropriate for elementary and junior high schools.