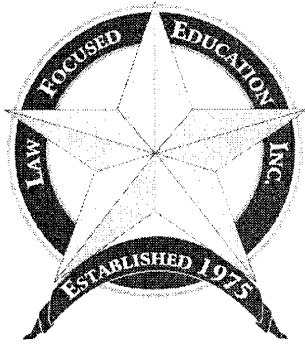


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## **Honorary Leon Jaworski Award For Teaching Excellence In Law Focused Education**

**Purpose:** To recognize an individual in the field of education or law, who has made an outstanding contribution to law focused education through one or more of the criteria listed below:

- Foster and deepen an understanding of the values of our legal and judicial systems.
- Promote and encourage effective law focused education programs in their schools or communities which promote civic engagement and civic knowledge. Facilitate and increase communication and understanding between students, educators, and those involved professionally in the legal system.

### **Eligibility:**

- Can be a licensed attorney or judge in the state of Texas in good standing or a college or university personnel, paralegal or district level supervisor of social studies.
- Individuals, groups or organizations working on law related education projects are eligible for the award with preference given to those nominees engaged in work supporting LFEI programs.
- Classroom teachers are not eligible since they can apply for the regular Leon Jaworski Award.

### **Nomination packet must include the following:**

- Letter of recommendation by the person nominating the candidate
- Applicant's resume

April 4, 2017

To the Law Focused Education, Inc. Board of Directors and the Law Focused Education  
Committee Members:

I would like to submit for consideration for the Honorary Leon Jaworski Award for Teaching  
Excellence in Law Focused Education the name of Mark Felts.

Mark Felts is currently a Graduate Assistant and Teaching Fellow in the Department of Teacher  
Education and Administration at the University of North Texas. He is a doctoral student on track  
for spring 2018 completion and is a respected academic as shown by his areas of research and  
teaching. He has a remarkable resume that indicates his dedication to the social studies discipline  
and his continued passion for sharing this with students. His work embodies the spirit of the  
Leon Jaworski Award and particularly speaks to the goal of training future teachers to appreciate  
and encourage students in the area of all social studies with positive emphasis on government  
and law related education. Mark has used and supported Law Related Education since he was  
teaching in various high school classrooms and he has brought that into his placement at the  
University of North Texas. At UNT he is teaching many courses to future educators but is  
particularly bringing this appreciation for and use of Law Related Education to future teachers of  
k-8 grade students. This is a critical area for Texas civics education and this awareness and  
proactive bridge is sorely needed. We would not have the Law Related Education presence at  
UNT without Mark Felts advocacy and energetic support. The pathway into UNT is a valuable  
addition to the scope of Law Related Education in Texas. Mark's student teacher training sets  
that teacher on a sound course to develop their ability to teach law related concepts, as well as  
their individual sense of responsibility and duty within the classroom, and, overall, to encourage  
teaching at the highest level. His emphasis on civics education is critical to the formation of any  
student. Mark has been a tireless supporter for Law Related Education in all forms including this  
practical application in the classroom.

It is an honor to nominate Mark Felts for the 2017 Leon Jaworski Award. He truly exemplifies  
what this award means in education today.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara

Dr. Barbara A. Evans  
Education Consultant  
817-313-8424  
[baevans@att.net](mailto:baevans@att.net)

**Mark Felts, M.A., M.Ed.**  
Graduate Assistant and Teaching Fellow  
Department of Teacher Education and Administration  
University of North Texas  
1155 Union Circle #310740  
Denton, TX 76203-5017  
(940) 565-2596  
Mark.Felts@unt.edu

**Research Interests**

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Major research interests are study abroad influences upon teacher development, experiential learning as professional development, field trip usage in K-12 education, and critical pedagogy.

**Education**

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Ph.D. University of North Texas (in progress, anticipated completion Spring 2018)

M.A. Université Jean Moulin Lyon III, 2012 – Comparative Cultural Studies

M.Ed. University of North Texas, 2009 – Secondary Education

B.S. Midwestern State University, 2006 – Criminal Justice/Psychology

**Professional Experience**

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2014— Present	University of North Texas Denton, TX	Graduate Assistant/ Teaching Fellow
2012—2014	Wichita Falls High School Wichita Falls, TX	Social Studies/French Teacher
2011—2012	Rotary International Lyon, France	Ambassadorial Scholar
2008—2011	Wichita Falls High School Wichita Falls, TX	Social Studies Teacher
2007—2008	Rotary International Nantes, France	Graduate Student/ Spouse of Scholar
2006—2007	Wichita Falls High School Wichita Falls, TX	Social Studies Teacher



## **Credentials and Certifications**

2006 – Present	Texas Teaching Certificate Secondary Social Studies
2013—2014	Texas Teaching Certificate Secondary French

## **Membership in Professional Organizations (current)**

2007	Association of Texas Professional Educators
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## **Instructional Activities**

### Areas of Expertise

- Social Studies Methods EC - 12
- History of American Education
- Experiential Learning
- Learning Theory

### Courses taught at the University of North Texas

Semester/Year	Title	Enrollment	Student Eval.	
			# of Evals.	Overall Score (5.0 scale)
Spring 2017	EDEE 4340 Social Studies in Grades EC - 6	17	In Progress	In Progress
Fall 2016	EDEE 4340 Social Studies in Grades EC - 6	37	25	4.9
Summer 2016	EDEE 3380 Teaching and Learning in Grades EC- 6	12	12	4.9
	EDME 3380 Teaching and Learning in Middle Grades	7	7	4.9
Spring 2016	EDEE 4340 Social Studies in Grades EC - 6	21	19	4.9
	EDSE 3800 Professional Issues in Teaching	20	6	4.8

Semester/Year	Title	Enrollment	Student Eval.	
			# of Evals.	Overall Score (5.0 scale)
Fall 2015	EDEE 4340 Social Studies in Grades EC – 6/ EDME 4340 Social Studies in Grades 4 - 8	46	35	4.9
Summer 2015	EDSE 3800 Professional Issues in Teaching	18	6	4.7
Spring 2015	EDEE 4340 Social Studies in Grades EC - 6	15	11	4.9
	EDSE 3800 Professional Issues in Teaching	28	5	4.9
Fall 2014	EDEE 4340 Social Studies in Grades EC - 6	14	6	4.9

**Service**

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To College

Date	Committee/Service	Role
4/03/2017	Department Teaching Fellow Representative	CAEP Accreditation Evaluative Visit
09/01/2014 — 12/12/14	Graduate Student Representative	College of Education Recruiting Events

To Department

Date	Committee/Service	Role
09/01/2014 – 12/12/14	Technology Committee	Member
09/01/2015 & 09/01/2016	Undergraduate Orientation	Graduate Student Facilitator

**Conferences Attended for Professional Development**

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October 2016

Doctoral Student Association Conference, UNT

November 2015	Education Leadership Conference, UNT
October 2015	Doctoral Student Association Conference, UNT
October 2014	Doctoral Student Association Conference, UNT
November 2014	Education Leadership Conference, UNT



