



The Nancy Garms Memorial Award is given for demonstrating a deep commitment to civic education and engagement through promotion of Law Focused Education programs in Texas. Evidence of this commitment should be seen either through his/her place of employment or volunteer work in Law Focused Education activities.

# THE NANCY GARMS MEMORIAL AWARD

The State Bar of Texas established The Nancy Garms Memorial Award in 1995 to honor an attorney or judge who emulates her tireless service to the State Bar of Texas Law-Focused Education programs. Nancy was the first female president of the Amarillo Bar Association and an adjunct professor at West Texas A&M University. She was appointed Court Master for the Ninth Administrative Judicial Region of Texas in 1992. Nancy served as president and longtime board member of Law Focused Education, Inc., a 501C3 non-profit organization of the State Bar of Texas.

## **PURPOSE**

To acknowledge an attorney or judge who shares Nancy Garms' commitment to Law Focused Education programs which promote civic education and engagement.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

- Must be a licensed attorney or judge in the state of Texas in good standing.
- Individuals only, no groups or organizations can be nominated.

## **NOMINATION PACKET MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:**

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

March 29, 2021

State Bar of Texas  
Law Focused Education Committee and Law Focused Education, Inc.  
1414 Colorado Street  
Austin, TX 78701

RE: Nomination of Sharon Thorne Green for the Nancy L. Garms Memorial Award

Dear Members of the Committee and Board:

It is with great pleasure that I nominate Sharon Thorne Green for the 2021 Nancy Garms Memorial Award for Law Focused Education and hope that the Law Focused Education Committee and Board of Directors will consider her for this honor.

Ms. Green is both an educator and an attorney. She has demonstrated her commitment to civic education and engagement by actively participating and promoting Law Focused Education programs not only in her district but statewide.

As Katy ISD's Director of Secondary Social Studies, Ms. Green has included Law Related Education sessions in her summer staff development calendar and back to school initiatives for the past five years. As President of the Texas Social Studies Supervisor Association (TSSSA) she has made sure that our programs and institutes always are included in the yearly conferences. These conferences offer the opportunity to inform all the social studies coordinators in the state of our institutes and new programs.

Ms. Green has volunteered to pilot several of our new programs. Lone Star Government was launched in Katy in 2019. The feedback LRE received from her teachers helped shape the current course. Last year, Katy ISD provided an opportunity for our scholars and consultants to gain valuable experience in virtual presentations when we piloted four sessions, with their educators, via zoom for the first time.

Ms. Green has demonstrated a commitment to civic education and engagement through promotion of Law Focused Education programs in her own district and throughout Texas.

I hope that you will consider her for the 2021 Nancy L. Garms Memorial Award.

Very truly yours,

Helen R. Pickle

**SHARON E. THORNE-GREEN, J.D.**

Richmond, Texas 77407

**EDUCATION**

**TEXAS TEACHER CERTIFICATION**, Houston, Texas.

Social Studies 4-8; Social Studies 8-12

**THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW**, Houston, Texas.

Juris Doctorate, May 1996. Top 25%. *Admitted to the State Bar of Texas November 1, 1996.*

**UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON-CENTRAL**, Houston, Texas.

**Double Major:** Bachelor of Science in Political Science and Psychology, May 1993.

Employed full-time during college.

**ACTIVITIES AND MEMBERSHIPS**

State Bar of Texas-Member Since 1996

Texas Social Studies Supervisor Association (TSSSA)-President

Texas Council for Social Studies (TCSS)-Member

National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)-Member

ASCD-Member

TED Masterclass-Participant 2020

STAAR Item Review Committee-Served in Austin, Fall 2014

Texas Computer Education Association (TCEA)-Member Fall 2015

Certified Thinking Maps Trainer

SIOF Coach

AVID Core Teacher for Social Studies

CHAMPS Cohort-Member

GT Hours Earned-40

AVID Conference 2010

**AWARDS**

Premium Excellentia FedJur Award-Fall 1995

CALI FedJur Award-Fall 1995

Dean's List Award-Fall 1995

National Dean's List-U of H-1989

University of Houston Delphian Scholarship Award

Byron Brown Memorial Scholarship Award-U of H

**EXPERIENCE****PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE IN EDUCATION**

**SECONDARY SOCIAL STUDIES COORDINATOR**, Katy ISD, June 2015-Present.

Provide effective leadership for Secondary Social Studies in Katy ISD by coordinating and developing curriculum and assessment design; monitoring and improving the written, taught and assessed curriculum; evaluating instructional programs and teaching effectiveness; supporting campuses and teachers via learning walks and attending PLCs. Use effective public relations skills necessary for the successful implementation of new programs, the coordination of programs, and productive relationships among stakeholders. Lead successful teams in analyzing and interpreting data and goal setting. Plan, organize, and conduct teacher training conferences and workshops. Assess and discuss the implementation of curriculum standards and assessments

with instructional coaches and teachers. Review and recommend textbooks and other educational materials. Recommend teaching techniques based on best practices and the use of different or new technologies. Collaborate with other departments including SPED, ELLs, Assessment and Instructional Technology, as well as coordinate curriculum writing and AP Vertical teams. Support campuses in interpreting relevant legislation and district policies impacting Social Studies instruction, e.g., teaching culture and religion, positive interaction with peace officers, etc. Coordinate the development of online instruction during COVID-19 using curriculum modules in Canvas and Edgenuity revisions.

**INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST/COACH, Social Studies**, Albright Middle School, Alief Middle School and Killough Middle School-Alief ISD. *Served campuses between August 2011-June 2015.* Provide effective instructional leadership and support for social studies teachers by mentoring new hires and assisting struggling teachers. Create and model engaging lessons that reflect best practices in planning and lesson design, including incorporating Thinking Maps, SIOP and AVID strategies that are TEKS/SE aligned. Assist teachers in developing technology proficiencies. Provide meaningful campus professional development in social studies and assist teachers in developing a plan of action for professional growth. Coordinate, disaggregate, and analyze social studies data in order to maximize student learning and program evaluation using DMAC, Cognos reports, and relevant pivot tables in Excel. Provide district and campus training for teachers including DMAC training for data analysis at the instructor level. Effectively organize social studies content materials, maintain inventory, and develop purchase order requests. Assist in monitoring the implementation of the social studies curriculum and technology integration objectives via walkthroughs and administrative feedbacks. Provide assistance with student testing, diagnosis and development of classroom social studies interventions, including parent contact and tutorials. Attend district social studies specialists' meetings and curriculum team meetings for continued program evaluation and refinement, including updating pacing guides, deconstructing TEKS/SEs and improving instructional strategies. Assist in creating rigorous district common assessments in DMAC to ensure TEKS/SE alignment. Provide support for Pre-AP/AP Vertical Team to promote improved writing scores on AP exams. Demonstrate effective communication, team-building, and problem-solving skills by promoting a cooperative atmosphere among teachers through discussion and negotiation. Organize results-driven PLCs by developing and empowering lead teachers to take charge and direct the focus of meetings on data-based instruction and assessments to support SPED, ELLs, and Pre-AP/GT students. Develop and maintain supportive relationships with administrative teams.

**SOCIAL STUDIES INSTRUCTOR,** [REDACTED]

Houston, TX 77082. *August 2007-August 2011.* Managed classroom coverage of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students by providing differentiated instruction for ESL, SPED, regular ED and Pre-AP students; assumed all responsibilities of a regular classroom teacher, including communication with parents, assessment of students, and attending staff meetings; collaborated with professional learning community to refine curriculum, lesson plans, assessments, and structured tutorials to meet the needs of students; performed basic administrative duties including recording attendance and grades; provided individual assistance to students as needed based on data collection and interpretation; incorporated various student-centered learning methodologies into the classroom, which significantly enhanced the classroom environment and promoted the development of student leadership skills; successfully integrated technology into the classroom by utilizing the internet for resources, Mimio devices, CPS Clicker systems, PowerPoint presentations and rich streaming video for a more dynamic learning experience; administered *TAKS* tests; established and maintain positive relationships with students, parents, and colleagues by fostering an environment of open communication and support. Increased *TAKS commended performance* rates for my students in 2011 to 70% with a passage rate of 100%.

**NON-PROFESSIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**EMMANUEL CHURCH,** [REDACTED], Houston, Texas 77016. (Volunteer)

*Choir Director, January 1990-August 2011.* Provided choral instruction and direction by teaching songs to the mass choir for various services. Lead and assisted in conducting weekly rehearsals. Worked with youth choir

members and young adults by training them to recognize and sing in correct voices, i.e., soprano, alto, and tenor voices. Lead the choir in selecting and teaching music for scheduled services and special events. Assisted in training new directors and assessing new choir members for placement in correct vocal section.

## NON-TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**SHARON E. THORNE-GREEN, Attorney,** [REDACTED], Richmond, TX 77407.

*Attorney, November 1996-Present.* Handled and assisted with representation in cases such as worker's compensation, unemployment, ADA, FMLA and general employment law. Handled and assisted with cases such as divorces, wills, adoptions, child support, child custody, incorporations, personal injury, landlord-tenant, property damage, premise liability, contract review, and criminal matters such as drug possession and welfare fraud. Developed strong concentration in family and employment law. Performed extensive legal research and writing; Drafted pleadings, motions, and discovery documents. Participated in negotiations and settlements.

**SBC/AT&T,** [REDACTED], Houston, TX 77064.

*Service Representative, September 2004-2007.* Duties include providing exceptional customer service while accomplishing sales goals and initiatives. Top sales performer within work group

*Customer Service Representative, December 1999-September 2004.* Duties include receiving, screening, analyzing, and dispatching trouble reports; explaining and suggesting various services and/or products to customers; operating visual display terminals to enter data and/or obtain information; handling customer complaints or inquiries and participating in training employees for the Assist Group (designated to handle challenging customers).

*Union Steward (CWA-Local 6222), Spring 2000-2007.* Duties include representing employees in management called meetings involving disciplinary actions; assisting union officers in determining company compliance with Union-Management Contract and government regulations, including FMLA, OSHA, HIPPA, ADA, and acts relating to sexual harassment, employment discrimination and disabilities; assisting employees in filing grievances based upon management disciplinary decisions; conducting investigations in order to determine if a grievance is warranted and overseeing grievance meetings; participating in union/management meetings to strengthen union/management relations and to discuss general office policies and procedures; and attending union meetings regarding job-related issues pertinent to the collective bargaining agreement.

**SHELL OIL COMPANY/UPDATE LEGAL,** [REDACTED], Houston, TX 77010.

(Contract Employee with Update Legal Staffing).

*Legal Searcher/Auditor, May 1997-February 1998.* Performed document review to respond to discovery requests; conducted document review to determine which files were responsive to discovery requests and which documents were considered privileged or business confidential. Created, maintained, and updated privilege logs, general indexes, business confidential logs, and reports for Shell and outside counsel. Assisted in all phases of discovery document production. Audited Introspect databases for computerized case file management.

**FIRST DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS,** [REDACTED], Houston, TX 77002.

*Judicial Intern for Justice Michol O'Connor, Spring 1996.* Performed extensive legal research; reviewed trial court records, transcripts, and briefs on appeal; and assisted in drafting pre-submission memorandums and court opinions. Attended appeals hearings.

**GULF COAST LEGAL FOUNDATION,** [REDACTED], Houston, TX 77002.

*Law Clerk Intern, Fall 1995.* Performed legal research. Drafted memorandums relating to housing, bankruptcy, and federal taxation law. Conducted client interviews.

**BROWN & HIXON, ATTORNEYS AT LAW,** [REDACTED] Houston, TX 77054.

*Law Clerk, May 1995 -- December 1995.* Performed extensive legal research; drafted pleadings, motions, and discovery documents; filed documents in federal and state courts. Researched federal issues such as

employment discrimination, railroad retirement benefits, and federal jurisdiction; researched state issues relating to worker's compensation, personal injury, and medical malpractice. Conducted client interviews.

### PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS

Texas Social Studies Supervisor's Association, President 2020-2021  
 Texas Council for Social Studies, Member 2014-present  
 National Council for Social Studies, Member 2015-present  
 TED Masterclass Participant 2020  
 Continuing Legal Education Requirements, 1996-present  
 Certified Thinking Maps Trainer-Thinking Maps Training with Chris Yeager-October 2011/2012; 2020 updated  
 Resilient Leadership Workshop with Elle Allison-Napolitano Fall 2014  
 TCEA Conference 2015  
 DMAC Training  
 INOVA Representative-Killough Middle School 2013-14  
 SIOP Coach  
 CHAMPS-Classroom Management Workshop-2007, 2015  
 Integrating Technology into the Classroom for GT Students  
*History Alive!* Training  
*Initial 30 GT Hours-June 2008*  
 AVID Core Teacher Training-June 2010  
 Pre-AP Vertical Team -2010-2011

### SKILLS

Curriculum Planning and Writing  
 Assessment Design & Revision  
 COGNOS Reports via Eschool Plus  
 DMAC & INOVA (data analysis)  
 Mimio Devices  
 Microsoft Excel, Power Point, Publisher  
 Microsoft Word and Outlook  
 Grant Writing

Excellent Communication & Interpersonal Skills  
 Legal Research & Writing  
 Oral Advocacy & Mediation  
 Professional Development Facilitator  
 Lexis and Westlaw Research  
 Accounting  
 Typing 90 w.p.m.  
 Data Entry

◆ **SALARY:** Open to Negotiation