



## NJDOE News

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### **Trenton Educator Named New Jersey History Teacher of the Year**

Commissioner of Education William L. Librera today announced that Beverly Jones, of Trenton Central High School in Trenton, has been named the New Jersey winner of the *Preserve America* Teacher of the Year Award. The new award program is co-sponsored by *Preserve America*, a new White House initiative, and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.

As New Jersey's winner, Jones will receive a \$1,000 honorarium, a certificate of recognition, and a core archive of history books and materials donated in her honor to her school's library.

"I congratulate Beverly Jones on achieving this prestigious honor," said Gov. James E. McGreevey. "Through our rigorous and evolving academic standards at the state level, we are continuously challenging our students and their teachers to settle for nothing less than the highest levels of achievement. Beverly Jones' excellent work in making history come alive for her high school students speaks for itself each day in Trenton; but also in a New Jersey voice loud enough to be heard in Washington and broadcast throughout the nation."

Commissioner Librera commended Jones for her achievement, stating, "This award is one affirmation of our belief that top quality teachers are working hard every day in our special needs districts, going the extra mile to help disadvantaged students succeed."

This summer, a national *Preserve America* History Teacher of the Year will be selected from among the state honorees. The national winner will be flown to a recognition ceremony in Washington or New York in the early fall to mark the beginning of the 2004-05 school year.

The *Preserve America* History Teacher of the Year Award will honor annually one outstanding K-12 teacher of American history from each state and U.S. territory.

*Preserve America* is a White House initiative that encourages greater shared knowledge about the nation's past and increased local participation in preserving the country's cultural and natural heritage assets. First Lady Laura Bush is active in the initiative and inaugurated the competition in January. The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, in New York City, promotes the study and love of American history throughout the country.