

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR OF METROPOLITAN DETROIT INC. c/o The NEW Detroit Science Center • 5020 John R. • Detroit, Michigan 48202 248-471-9900 • fax: 248-479-0383 • email: SF@SEFMD.org • http://www.sefmd.org

## PRESS RELEASE

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## Pat Fair Selected as 'Teacher of the Year'

Patricia L. Fair, Science Teacher from Our Lady of Good Counsel School in Plymouth, Michigan, has been selected as the Science Fair 'Teacher of the Year' for 2004. The award is given annually to a teacher that best demonstrates encouragement of students in the sciences and long term support for the Science and Engineering Fair of Metro Detroit.

Pat was selected from number of teachers that have participated in the science fair. Final selection was announced on Friday, January 16, 2004 by Tim Fino, Fair Director of the Fair. The award is given on behalf of the Engineering Society of Detroit in conjunction with the ESD affiliate council with a formal presentation during National Engineer's Week and a special recognition dinner on February 23, 2004.

The following is a biography of Pat Fair

Pat Fair began her teaching career in Maryland after graduating with a BS degree from Frostburg State University. She came to Michigan in the early 70's and taught at St. Bernadine's. When that school closed, Ms. Fair went to work in the automobile industry. Her love for teaching called her back to the classroom in 1986 when she joined the staff Our Lady of Good Counsel School in Plymouth to teach 7th and 8th grade science and 7th grade geography. While teaching at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth, Ms. Fair has earned her MA degree from Eastern Michigan University.

For the past 18 years, science has blossomed at OLGC under the direction of Ms. Fair. As department head for science, Ms. Fair coordinates the science curriculum and oversees the running of the science lab. Under her tutelage the junior high students have explored and experimented with many facets of science. The annual science fair amazes all who attend. Under her guidance, students have proudly claimed numerous grand prizes, top-place ribbons, and acknowledgements of merit from business and industry. During that time, Pat has sponsored 728 participates in the Science Fair, 6 of whom were Grand Award Winners, and 116 which were either first place or second place. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, Ms. Fair is the Science Club Advisor and moderator of the Young Astronauts. Whether an animal needs to be saved, the Rouge River tested, or rockets launched, that is where Ms. Fair can be found

The SEFMD will be held March 30-April 3, 2004 at Cobo Center in Detroit. It is open to the public (free of charge) April 1-2 from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Entry form deadline for competition in the fair is February 6, 2004 (February 13 if entering via the internet). Students are encouraged to enter the Science Fair through their schools to earn recognition and key financial awards and scholarships.

"The Science and Engineering Fair of Metro Detroit is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting science and engineering discovery in students in 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The Science and Engineering Fair of Metropolitan Detroit is the largest one of its kind in the country. The Fair is open to all students who are dedicated to expanding their knowledge and understanding of the world around them."