

LINDA MYERS CHOZEN AWARD FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

OVERVIEW



Honoring educators who demonstrate outstanding leadership, innovation, and commitment to citizenship education.

For over 50 years, teachers have been Close Up's most integral partners in educating young citizens for a lifetime of democratic participation. To honor their inspirational work nationwide, we are thrilled to present the **Linda Myers Chosen Award for Teaching Excellence** to Close Up educators who show outstanding leadership, innovation, and commitment to citizenship education. To highlight their amazing work, we are recognizing five extraordinary educators with a \$2,500 award to support their efforts.



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WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE LINDA MYERS CHOZEN AWARD?

The Linda Myers Chosen Award is open to educators who work with middle school or high school students in schools, after-school programs, or youth organizations. Within the current school year, they must have (1) participated in a Close Up program, training, or activity, and (2) planned or implemented an activity or project to increase civic engagement among youth in their school or organization. **Example activities could include:**

- Developing and implementing a unit or series of workshops to increase civic engagement in a class or club that could be replicated by other teachers.
- Planning and leading a civic engagement experience such as meeting with local government officials, hosting a speaker series, facilitating a grade- or school-wide deliberation, and/or welcoming students from other schools for a civil discourse activity.

WHAT ARE THE AWARD REQUIREMENTS?

Winners of the Linda Myers Chosen Award are recognized and honored with a \$2,500 award. To be considered, an educator must submit an application by **May 15, 2025**. The application includes:

- An overview of the civic engagement activity or project and any applicable accompanying materials (lesson plans, photos, testimonials, etc.).
- A calculation of the number of students being reached.
- A timeline of the activity. Activities can be existing ones planned for the 2024-25 school year or those planned for implementation in the 2025-26 school year.

Award recipients will be determined by the Close Up leadership team with input from the Chosen family.

ABOUT LINDA MYERS CHOZEN

The award is named in honor and memory of Linda Myers Chosen of Tulsa, Oklahoma, a longtime, dedicated supporter of Close Up's teacher education programming. Close Up is grateful for the longstanding support of the Chosen family and our other donors who support Close Up's mission and work with educators to empower young people. To learn more about how you can [contribute to Close Up's work](#) nationwide, please contact us at support@closeup.org.