

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE: Sept. 3, 2021

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Brianna Ross of Deer Park Middle Magnet School named finalist for 2021-2022 Maryland Teacher of the Year

Statewide winner to be announced Oct. 7 on MPT2

TOWSON, MD. – Brianna Ross, social studies department chair at Deer Park Middle Magnet School and Baltimore County Public Schools' Teacher of the Year, has been named one of eight finalists for 2021-2022 Maryland Teacher of the Year.

When she learned of the honor, Ross said, "I literally don't even know what to say. I am so proud to represent the incredible work that ALL BCPS educators do every day for our students."

In the Maryland State Department of Education news release about the finalists, Ross was described as viewing teaching as "a revolutionary act of love." Ross has spent her entire teaching career with Baltimore County Public Schools, first at Scotts Branch Elementary School, and since 2018, at Deer Park.

In her seventh year of teaching, Ross serves as Deer Park's social studies department chair, equity liaison, and summer transition program coordinator and has been a BCPS curriculum writer. A graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, where she received both a bachelor's degree in applied developmental psychology and a master's degree in curriculum and instruction, Ross also earned a certificate in administration and supervision from Loyola University of Maryland and is working towards a doctorate in urban educational leadership from Morgan State University.

"We are so proud of Brianna Ross for her work on behalf of our students and for earning this impressive recognition," said BCPS Superintendent Dr. Darryl L. Williams. "As I said when she was named Baltimore

County Teacher of Year in April, Ms. Ross shows us that great teaching transcends even the constraints of a pandemic. She shows us that great teaching – and great teachers – are among the most powerful forces anywhere and at any time."

The 2021-2022 Maryland Teacher of the Year will be announced on October 7 at 8 p.m. in a Maryland Teacher of the Year television special airing at on MPT2, as well as MPT Video.

Presenting sponsors for the Maryland Teacher of the Year Program are Comcast, the Maryland Automobile Dealers Association, McDonald's Family of Baltimore, Northrop Grumman Corporation, and SMART Technologies. Platinum sponsors are Maryland Public Television, NTA Life/Horace Mann, and Whiting-Turner Contracting Company.

The selected Maryland Teacher of the Year will compete for the esteemed National Teacher of the Year Award. Maryland's Teacher of the Year will also spend the coming year as an educational speaker and advisor in Maryland. At this time, both virtual and in-person venues are being planned throughout the state and nation.

(Editor's note: A photo of Ross accompanies this release.)

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