

# NET FORCE

NEBRASKA ENTREPRENEURSHIP TASK FORCE

EDUCATE \* ENGAGE \* EMPOWER  
ENTREPRENEURS

# AWARDS PROGRAM 2018



## OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

### **Steve Bors**

*Director-Southeast Community College Entrepreneurship Center*

The Outstanding Service Award is open to individuals or organizations that have demonstrated sustained and outstanding leadership and advocacy for entrepreneurship education and/or business development services in Nebraska. The leadership and advocacy has been at a level beyond a specific community or organization.

Through Steve's leadership, the SCC Entrepreneurship Center has grown to be a significant driver for entrepreneurship in Lincoln and surrounding areas. The Focus Suite concept has opened doors to numerous start-up businesses seeking a professional and supportive environment that allows them to focus on growing their businesses. From one-on-one coaching to Perk Up Thursday socials, Steve and his staff are helping to create new businesses, one at a time. In addition, he currently serves as the Chair of the Nebraska Entrepreneurship Task Force (NETForce).

Steve has extensive experience in marketing, consulting, advertising, public relations, database marketing, direct mail, brand development, consumer research, entrepreneurship training, budget management, strategic planning, social media, presentations and project management. He has served in a number of management and leadership positions with Great Western Bank, TierOne Bank, Cross Financial Group, Smith Hayes Financial Services Corporation, American Charter Federal Savings and Loan, International Management Services, and the International Organization of Masters, Mates, and Pilots.



It is the policy of the Nebraska Department of Education not to discriminate on the basis of gender, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, age or national origin in its education programs, administration, policies, employment or other agency programs.

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# ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

## Jeanette Kleppinger

*Westside Community Schools*

Recipients of this award have made significant contributions toward the organization, implementation, development or evaluation of entrepreneurship education in Nebraska. The educator's achievements may be from one or more of the following areas: classroom instruction, community-based learning, mentoring programs, internships, and/or student organization leadership.

Jeanette knows how to foster the entrepreneurial spirit, provide opportunities for her students and give them real world experience as they take on their entrepreneurial ideas. Jeanette is an outstanding classroom teacher. She is always questioning why and how her students are learning. She wants to make her classes engaging but also matter. She is constantly pushing her students to think outside the box. She facilitates activities that force students out of their comfort zones.

Jeanette has written a curriculum that goes way beyond a text book. Students work with the Startup Collaborative, attend One Million Cups, and work with business and industry in a real, authentic environment. Jeanette is a true leader in the field of entrepreneurial thinking and teaching. So much so, she proposed the Nebraska Furniture Mart School of Entrepreneurial Thinking, and was awarded \$250,000 over a two-year period to grow her program. Currently, 13 students take part in the "Hatch" program; where they are given extraordinary opportunities to learn beyond the classroom.



# GREGG CHRISTENSEN NEBRASKA ENTREPRENEURSHIP DISTINGUISHED SERVICE HALL OF FAME AWARD

## Tom Field

*Director of the Engler Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Program*

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