

Florida DKG Educational Foundation

Educator Express



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Need Money for an Upcoming Professional Development Activity?

Many Florida educators spend their summers attending conferences, seminars and workshops to learn new and innovative skills to use in their classrooms. More would like to attend a professional event but lack the funds to do so. Florida educators can look to the Florida DKG Educational Foundation for help.

The 2019 FLDKGEF Professional Development Award provides funds that will assist Florida teachers who desire to attend unique and effective professional development opportunities that will have a positive impact on the lives of Florida students. All currently employed Florida educators are eligible for this competitive individual award. The online application can be completed and submitted electronically. To learn more about Florida DKG Educational Foundation and to download your application visit our website: <https://www.fldkgef.org>

Meet the New Florida DKG Educational Foundation Directors

Dr. Connie Besco and Dr. Kay Clawson



Meet **Dr. Connie Besco**, one of the two new directors of the Florida DKG Educational Foundation. Connie was invited to join DKG in 1976 by some women she greatly admired. Four years later, she saw a little window in the International Newsletter that stated, "Would you like to improve your leadership skills?" She naively

filled out the forms, was accepted and found herself participating in the *DKG Golden Gift Leadership Seminar*.

The *Seminars in Purposeful Living* were a great inspiration in Connie's life. In 1981, Connie received the *Ola Hiller International Scholarship* to continue work on her doctorate. Since 1980, she has attended all but 2 State, Regional and International Conventions, presented workshops at all levels, served as the *Iowa State President* and worked on multiple committees.

Upon retiring to Florida, Connie decided to be less involved in DKG however, she served as chapter president for six years, continues to attend meetings at all levels and that was enough UNTIL she saw the spark that Dr. Elsie Gross, Merle Jones and their colleagues were trying to light in Florida's DKG Educational Foundation. Connie has now committed to lend her energies to encouraging others to invest in the gift that keeps on giving the enrichment of our most precious resource: educators. She asks us to continue to believe and invest in our future, one educator at a time.

Meet **Dr. Kay Clawson** who has been an active member of DKG at the International, Regional, State and Chapter levels. She has served as the Northeast Regional Director (2016-2018) and as Chair of the International Leadership Development Committee. Kay has served on several international committees, attended multiple Leadership/Management Seminars and parliamentary training. She is currently the chair of the *International DKG Education Foundation* (2018-2020). Kay served as the *West Virginia State President* and was the recipient of the *West Virginia 2010 Achievement Award*.



Kay is Professor Emeritus from West Liberty University where she worked in teacher education for 35 years, teaching Human Development and Educational Law. She retired as the Provost of Graduate Studies. During her early teaching career, she taught Special Education, Sixth Grade and Specialty Courses in Life Skills. Her Doctorate from West Virginia University is in Curriculum and Instruction with Higher Education Administration emphasis.

Kay and her husband resided in Wheeling, WV until two years ago when they moved to Naples, FL permanently. Her hobbies are traveling, crocheting, mentoring DKG members and living life to the fullest.

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For more information, visit our website: <https://www.fldkgef.org/donate.html>

Important Dates

- Sept 1, 2018** Award application available online: www.fldkgef.org
- Feb 1, 2019** Application deadline
- Apr 27, 2019** Award(s) announced

FLDKGEF

Award Recipients

- 2017 Dr. Stephanie Lutton Carey**
University of South Florida
Tampa, FL
*Attended: International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics
Cape Town, South Africa*
- 2017 Cara Dunford Holt**
Yankeetown School PreK-8
Yankeetown, FL
*Attended: Kagan Academy
Orlando, Florida*
- 2018 Carol Hedrick**
Lehigh Elementary
North Ft Myers, FL
*Attended: International Society for Technology in Education
Chicago, Illinois*

Your Support Helps Our Foundation Continue With our Vision.

We appreciate the generous financial support which has allowed the Foundation to provide opportunities for educators in Florida to pursue professional growth and support educational excellence.

Contribution Forms available online www.fldkgef.org

Florida DKG Educational Foundation

Florida DKG Educational Foundation is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) corporation that provides funding for activities that support the professional development of educators in the state of Florida.

Contact us: fldkgef@gmail.com

Website: www.fldkgef.org

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