

Gahanna Jefferson Education Foundation  
**2014 CORNERSTONE AWARD HONOREES**

**Charlene Greene**

*“It means a lot to be nominated and awarded for something I love to do – and chose to continue doing – for 38 years of my life.”*

Charlene Greene has been an educator for 38 years, 22 of which she spent with Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools. She taught Gahanna students life science, biology and chemistry from 1980 to the new millennium.

“My most vivid memory is of a student who returned to tell me that he was proud that of all the employees at this job, he was able to convert units from English to metric as a result of chemistry class,” said Greene. “He said he saw no purpose in learning it while in class, but had to tell me that it actually had application for the real world.”

Previous colleagues of Greene’s at Gahanna laud her for her high intelligence, years of experience, compassion and patience.

“She worked with students to encourage understanding of subject matter and to cause them to aspire to high goals of scholarship, character, leadership and preparation for their careers and role in society,” said former colleague Wanda Neudorfer-Pack. “She is a person of faith and virtue and is a role model for all those who know her.”

“Within weeks of Charlene's first year at Gahanna Lincoln, a close friend of mine in the science department reported that we had just hired an outstanding teacher who had an amazing work ethic and challenged her students, with a motivational approach,” said former colleague Phil Koppel. “His evaluation was accurate, as others who worked with her soon echoed similar sentiments.”

According to Koppel, students saw Greene as passionate about her subject matter and her students, with an infectious excitement for chemistry.

Throughout her career, Greene was the recipient of several awards and opportunities. She traveled to southern Africa with other Ohio educators in 1985; she was recognized for her work in the study of medullary hypothyroidism during a Teacher in the Workplace summer experience in 1992; and she received an Excellence in Teaching award in 2002.

Greene received both her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees from the University of Dayton. She also completed further science studies at The Ohio State University.