

# Pointers for Parents

## Unique Opportunities For "A+" Teachers

(NAPSA)—Students, parents and entire communities have the opportunity to nominate the best teachers to attend an all-expense paid professional development program designed to bolster teaching of math and science.

The Mickelson ExxonMobil Teachers Academy is designed to equip teachers with new tools to inspire, engage and retain students' interest in these subjects at an early age. By doing so, the program strives to address the growing need to encourage more students to pursue careers in fields such as medicine, computing and energy. Experts say a solid foundation in math and science is critically important to developing the next generation of science-savvy leaders and maintaining the nation's competitive standing.

Teachers can be nominated or apply for the program by visiting [www.sendmyteacher.com](http://www.sendmyteacher.com). Two-hundred teachers from all 50 states were selected to attend this year's Academy, and the Web site recently relaunched to accept applications for next year.

"We are thrilled with the positive response the Academy received from teachers looking to enhance their understanding in math and science education," said Phil Mickelson, PGA golfer and co-founder of the Mickelson ExxonMobil Teachers Academy. "Along with ExxonMobil, we designed an exciting learning experience for teachers and we are pleased to offer even more opportunities for teachers to attend."



**PGA golfer Phil Mickelson surprised Amanda Santana, a teacher at The Rice School in Houston, with news that she had been selected to attend an all-expense paid professional development program.**

In 2005, ExxonMobil partnered with Phil and Amy Mickelson, the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) and Math Solutions to create the Mickelson ExxonMobil Teachers Academy. More than 1,400 teachers have attended the Academy, which has influenced more than 30,000 students across the country.

Interested teachers are encouraged to apply now for this unique opportunity. Applications are due Oct. 31, 2009, and the NSTA and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics will assemble a panel of math and science educators to evaluate the entries. Selected teachers will spend five days learning hands-on experiments to deepen their understanding of math and science concepts.

To nominate teachers or to learn more about the program, log on to [www.sendmyteacher.com](http://www.sendmyteacher.com).