

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ACTE Announces New York Teacher as National Award Finalist

ALEXANDRIA, VA—The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) announces Alexander Bell, a computer technology teacher at Thomas A. Edison Career and Technical High School in Jamaica, New York, as the 2015 ACTE Region I Teacher of the Year. The ACTE Teacher of the Year award, sponsored by Express Employment Professionals, recognizes the finest CTE teachers at the middle and secondary school level who have demonstrated innovation in the classroom, commitment to their students and dedication to the improvement of CTE in their institutions and communities.

In his 31 years of teaching in New York City public high schools, Alexander Bell has mentored many students who are now teachers and administrators, including his current principal at Thomas A. Edison CTE High School. To date, 412 of Bell's students have become CompTIA A+ Certified computer service technicians. Bell was invited to serve as adjunct professor at Borough of Manhattan Community College, New York City for its A+ certification computer repair program, where he received a 4.7/5 average rating. He founded and advises a National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) chapter at Edison High School that boasts 128 members in its third year. In August of this year, Bell was named as a new member of the NTHS Board of Directors for a four-year term. In addition, he advises Edison's popular MOUSE (Making Opportunities for Upgrading Schools & Education) Squad, an in-house tech support group composed of CTE students. Bell's MOUSE Squad technicians have provided tech support at national conferences, media events and awards ceremonies in and outside New York, and they have won awards and certificates for their work.

Bell has been recognized many times over for excellence, beginning with his first Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award presented by Mayor Giuliani in 1997 for his efforts to secure more than \$227,000 of donated equipment and \$110,000 to fund a new computer technology lab at Edison. In 2002, Bell was nominated and inducted into *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*. Among his many honors, the recognition prized most by Bell comes directly from his students. Former student Churanie Ramnaras says, "When no one else saw what I was capable of, Mr. Bell did."

Bell is one of five finalists for the 2016 national title. The national winner will be announced at the [ACTE Awards Banquet](#), a dinner and award presentation recognizing the best CTE educators in the country. The event will take place on Thursday evening, November 19, during ACTE's CareerTech VISION 2015 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The Awards Banquet is sponsored by Express Employment Professionals, Kuder, CareerSafe, Certiport, and Stratasys. For more information about the ACTE Excellence Awards, [visit our webpage](#).

About ACTE

The [Association for Career and Technical Education \(ACTE\)](#) is the nation's largest not-for-profit association committed to the advancement of education that prepares youth and adults for successful careers. ACTE represents the community of CTE professionals, including educators, administrators, researchers, guidance counselors and others at all levels of education. ACTE is committed to excellence in providing advocacy, public awareness and access to resources, professional development and leadership opportunities.

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