**ACTE Announces 2021 Region I Excellence Award Winners, National Award Finalists**

**ALEXANDRIA, VA**—The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2021 Region I Excellence Awards:

* ACTE Region I Teacher of the Year—**John Lockhart—**Lost Creek, WV
* ACTE Region I Administrator of the Year—**Dr. Denise Fernandez-Pallozzi**—Castleton, NY
* ACTE Region I New Teacher of the Year—**Elizabeth Wise—**Bay City, MI
* ACTE Region I Lifetime Achievement Award—**Frank Yesalavich**—Wayne, NJ
* ACTE Region I Teacher Educator of the Year Award – Nick Beykirch – Ewing, NJ
* ACTE Region I Carl Perkins Community Service Award – Sara Plozay – Piqua, OH

The Best in CTE Awards:

* Region I Scott Westbrook III Humanitarian Award – **Daniel Murphy**– Ohio
* Region I Jim Hanneman Memorial Award – **Jon Quatman**– Mason, Ohio
* Region I Outstanding Business/Education Partnership – **Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy** - Michigan
* Region I School Board Recognition Award – Arden Tewksbury– Pennsylvania
* Region I Innovative Career and Technical Education Award – **Richard Packer** – Hamilton, Ohio

The Region winners were announced at an awards ceremony during the spring 2021 ACTE Region I conference.

The ACTE Excellence Awards promote merit in career and technical education (CTE) by recognizing individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to CTE, programs that exemplify the highest standards and organizations that have conducted activities to promote and expand CTE programs. Award winners serve as inspirational leaders to ACTE: they embody the core values of serving students and being committed to CTE. Find more information about the ACTE Excellence Awards [here](https://www.acteonline.org/awards).

The Region I winners will progress as national finalists in their categories. The national winners will be announced at the ACTE Virtual Awards Gala, an award presentation recognizing the best CTE educators in the country, which will take place on November 30, 2021 during ACTE’s CareerTech VISION 2021 Hybrid conference.

*ACTE continues to monitor the rapidly changing situation related to the spread of COVID-19. We understand the concerns for health and safety. Absent federal travel restrictions and/or local, state, or regional decisions to close venues, ACTE is proceeding with an in person event at this time.  If there are any changes, we will provide information as soon as possible.*

[**About ACTE**](http://www.acteonline.org/)*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, school counselors, guidance and career development professionals 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.*