

# imagination

AWARD

Washington State

**What is the  
Imagination Award?**

In 2007, at the prompting of Governor Christine Gregoire, a group of education, civic and business leaders gathered in Tacoma to hold a summit called Creativity Matters. The purpose of that gathering was to discuss and demonstrate how vital it is for us to inject more imagination and creativity into public education, and to foster a culture in our schools that rewards imagination. One of our partners and sponsors at the summit was the Lincoln Center Institute (LCI), a national leader in arts and education. LCI created an annual Imagination Award to recognize and highlight imaginative thinking in the teaching and learning practice of New York City's public schools. At the Creativity Matters gathering, LCI announced it would be partnering with community leaders from across Washington to create an Imagination Award for our state. In 2009 the award will be presented to an elementary school in Washington State that encourages and incorporates imaginative thinking across the curriculum, from art to English to the natural sciences. Such a school's curriculum promotes the development of the Capacities (as outlined on the following pages) which were developed to recognize and foster imagination; and demonstrates the ability to construct learning environments in which the Capacities and imagination are cultivated and flourish

**Objectives  
This Award process will:**

- Honor schools (educators, administrators, students, and their community) that make a difference to their communities by valuing and educating for imagination
- Highlight the importance of imagination in schools
- Demonstrate the connection between educational practices and the development of imagination in students

**How to participate:**

It is easy to apply for the 2009 Washington State Imagination Award. Please submit two paper copies. The application form is available for download at [www.creativitymatters.net](http://www.creativitymatters.net)

**Mail application to:** Imagination Award Application  
c/o The Guiding Lights Network  
3518 Fremont Ave. N. Box 583  
Seattle, WA 98103

**Applications must be postmarked by February 9, 2009.**

**Questions?** Please email [info@creativitymatters.net](mailto:info@creativitymatters.net)

**Criteria:** Lincoln Center Institute created the Capacities for Imaginative Learning as representative of its approach to teaching and learning. These Capacities are not limited necessarily to the arts, but can be developed in all aspects of the curriculum. To apply for the Imagination Award schools should exhibit evidence that the elements contained in, but not limited to, the Capacities, are present in their work across the curriculum. *For more information about the Capacities and their origins, go to [www.lcinstitute.org](http://www.lcinstitute.org), click on Imagination at LCI on the left side of the screen, then choose Writings on the Imagination from the drop-down menu and click on Teaching and Learning at LCI.*

## **The Capacities:**

<i>Noticing deeply</i>	to identify and articulate layers of detail in a work of art or other object of study through continuous interaction with it over time.
<i>Embodying</i>	to experience a work of art or other object of study through your senses, as well as emotionally, and also to physically represent that experience.
<i>Questioning</i>	to ask questions throughout your explorations of a work of art or other object of study that further your own learning; to ask the question, "What if?"
<i>Identifying patterns</i>	to find relationships among the details you notice in a work of art or other object of study, group them, and recognize patterns.
<i>Making connections</i>	to connect what you notice and the patterns you see to your prior knowledge and experiences, as well as to others' knowledge and experiences including text and multimedia resources.
<i>Exhibiting empathy</i>	to respect the diverse perspectives of others in our community; to understand the experiences of others emotionally, as well as in thought.
<i>Creating meaning</i>	to create your own interpretations based on the previous capacities, see these in the light of others in the community, create a synthesis, and express it in your own voice.
<i>Taking action</i>	to act on the synthesis of what you have learned in your explorations through a specific project. These include projects in the arts, as well as in other realms.
<i>Reflecting/assessing</i>	to look back on your learning, assess what you have learned, identify what challenges remain, and assess/identify what further learning needs to happen. This is the beginning of learning something else.

**Review process:** The initial round of reviews will be **anonymous** and will be done by a review board consisting of educators and citizens from Washington State. Applicants will be considered based on evidence of the criteria listed earlier in this document. This initial review will result in three semi-finalists. Top applications will then be reviewed by an advisory panel including staff from the Lincoln Center Institute. A site visit may be scheduled to assist in the determination of the final awardees.

- The Award:**
- \$5000.00 check for the top school:
  - Scholarship, including airfare and lodging, for two teachers to attend Lincoln Center Institute professional development workshops in New York City
  - Lincoln Center Institute merchandise for all teachers in the school
  - Certificate
  - Banner

The award will be presented at an event in Washington State and at Lincoln Center Institute, at times mutually agreed upon by the school and Lincoln Center Institute. The media will be encouraged to attend these events.

**Application timeline:** November 2008 Applications available

**February 9, 2009 Application deadline**

*Applications must be postmarked by 11:59 P.M., February 9, 2009. Late applications will not be considered.*

March 2009 Selection of top three candidates; Site visits

April 2009 Awardee contacted

Spring 2009 Events to honor winners and finalists of the Imagination Award competition

**General conditions:** All applications become the property of Lincoln Center Institute and Creativity Matters. The contents will be shared with Lincoln Center Institute and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts and may be used for promotion, editorial, advertising, marketing, and other similar purposes without further notice or compensation. Applicants must certify that the information in the application is true and be willing to provide verification. Applicants and their students may be required to sign release forms. Applicants will be disqualified for award consideration for failing to submit a fully completed application.