



2012 Missouri Scholars Academy

Teacher Appreciation Day

presents

PHIL PLAIT

The Missouri Scholars Academy is proud to continue a special program that is designed to recognize those teachers whom **you**, a scholar at the 2012 Missouri Scholars Academy, regard as having had the most significant impact on your education.

We invite you to nominate a teacher who has been your mentor, your inspiration, your advisor, and who has exhibited the greatest influence on your educational development. This individual should be someone who has fine knowledge of the subject matter, who willingly responds with sensitive and sophisticated judgment to student concerns, and who creates a supportive and challenging classroom atmosphere.

The teacher you nominate will be invited to be in Columbia on Friday, June 22, to participate in the program of the Academy and to be recognized at a special banquet hosted by Mr. Tom Wolfe, President of the University of Missouri, and a range of distinguished educators. Each teacher will receive a ***Missouri Scholars Academy Citation of Excellence*** in recognition of this special honor. The banquet will be followed by a grand evening program featuring the Academy choir and a presentation by **Phil Plait, the 'bad' astronomer!** After ten years working on Hubble Space Telescope and six more working on astronomy education, Phil struck out on his own as a writer. He's written two books, dozens of magazine articles, and 12 bazillion blog articles. He is a skeptic and fights the abuse of science, but his true love is praising the wonders of real science. **Information of Phil is available, for example, at <http://www.badastronomy.com/info/whois.html>**

This special program will give **you** an opportunity to say "thanks" to the teacher for whom you have always wanted to do something especially nice.

Please complete the enclosed nomination form (***be sure the name and address of your nominee are as accurate as possible***) and return it with the Scholar Questionnaire by Wednesday, April 18.

We will mail invitations to the honored teachers the week of May 7.

Festivities for 2012 Teacher Appreciation Day will begin at 4:00 p.m.

Helpful hint: how about letting **your** nominee know that **you** hope that he or she will join you in this recognition of excellence in teaching?

IMPORTANT: We will use the Missouri Scholars Academy website to post, by e-mail and zip code, scholars teachers planning to attend so that they can coordinate transportation.