

## Local Teacher Honored for Innovative Education Program

### *Sheena Nelson Selected as National Finalist for Cable's Leaders in Learning Awards*

Sheena Nelson, an elementary school teacher with Eveleth-Gilbert Public Schools, is being honored by the cable industry for her demonstrated commitment to improving education in her community.

Mediacom Communications and Cable in the Classroom, the cable industry's education foundation, announced that Sheena Nelson has been chosen as a finalist for the 2008 Cable's Leaders in Learning Awards. The annual award program, now in the fourth year, recognizes outstanding educators, administrators and other community leaders at the forefront of innovation in education.

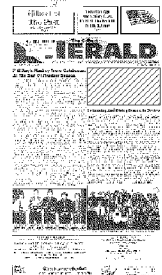
Finalists are eligible for a national Cable's Leaders in Learning Award, which

**Continued on Page 2**

includes \$3,000 prize, an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., and a June awards ceremony and gala in honor of the winners at the Library of Congress.

Applications were received from across the country for the 2008 Cable's Leaders in Learning Award. Nelson is one of just 44 finalists selected from classroom educators, administrators, college faculty and community leaders nationwide. Nelson is being recognized in the General Excellence category for the implementation of "Claymation Time," a program where students learn basic story elements using claymation, pictures and computers to create a Quicktime movie.

"Recognizing the hard-working individuals who are foregoing fresh and creative paths to improving educational opportunities for the nation's students is among the most important



roles we can play," said Doug Levin, senior education policy director, Cable in the Classroom. "Nelson's efforts are a prime example of the sorts of educational innovation the cable industry is proud to honor. Cable has contributed substantial educational content and connectively for use by thousands of our nation's schools, and it's good to acknowledge the results of that investment through the highly competitive Leaders in Learning program."

"Nelson has had great success with her program. 'Claymation Time' is important for those students who don't learn with the traditional paper and pencil. It allows for real world applications and creativity," she said. "It has also inspired teachers to find ways to incorporate technology into their classrooms."

Bill Jensen, Mediacom's vice president of operations said, "We congratulate

Sheena Nelson for being named Cable's Leaders in Learning Award finalist and for using new ideas to educate and better prepare young students for the future, a commitment that Mediacom Communications shares and applauds."

Winners will be chosen to receive a Cable's Leaders in Learning Award in one of the following categories:

General Excellence – for leaders who have demonstrated excellence in expanding and enhancing learning opportunities by employing a diversity of traditional and non-traditional approaches to producing measurable improvements in education outcomes in formal or informal settings.

Media Literacy Education – awarded in partnership with the National PTA to a leader who has advanced the teaching and learning of media literacy concepts and skills to children and youth. Media literacy is defined as the ability to access, understand, analyze, evaluate and create media messages on television, the Internet and other outlets.

Cable Partnerships for Learning – for leaders who are working in partnership with the cable industry to expand and enhance learning opportunities for children and youth in or out of the classroom.

Pushing the Envelope – for leaders who push the envelope and/or redefine the education frontier through the use of cable technology and/or cable content.

For more information on the awards and the 2008 finalists, please visit: [www.LeadersInLearningawards.com](http://www.LeadersInLearningawards.com).

Since 2005, Cable's Leaders in Learning Awards, administered by Cable in the Classroom, have recognized administrators, educators, and community leaders who demonstrate vision, innovation, action and transformation in education in and out of the classroom. The objective of the awards is to promote and encourage innovative learning practices affecting children from preschool through high school across communities nationwide.

Cable in the Classroom, the cable industry's education foundation, works to expand and enhance learning for children and youth. Created in 1989 to help schools take advantage of educational cable programming and technology, CIC has become a leading national advocate for media literacy education and for the use of technology and media for learning, as well as a valuable resource of educational cable content and services for policy makers, educators and leaders.