



Back 2 School Illinois to Announce its “We Appreciate Teachers” Contest Winners
*Non-Profit to Provide Free School Supply Kits to Fifteen Contest-Winning Educators,
To Enhance Their Students’ Academic Performances*

CHICAGO, IL – On Tuesday evening, May 3rd, Back 2 School Illinois (B2SI), a Chicago-based education nonprofit, will award fifteen winning Illinois educators with Back 2 School Illinois kits (full of 30 much-needed school supplies) for their entire classrooms of students, as part of the non-profit’s We Appreciate Teachers contest.

This statewide *Teachers* initiative is designed to celebrate and support Illinois educators, particularly during COVID-19. In addition to receiving free school supply kits for their students, the winning teachers will also receive gift baskets full of items from Lynfred wines, Hooters, Athleta, Cabot cheeses, Starbucks, Epic Popcorn, Amy’s Candy Bar, Chicago Candle Co and more.

With its *We Appreciate Teachers* campaign, Back 2 School Illinois is celebrating the creativity and resourcefulness that many educators have had to exhibit, in order to provide Illinois children with an education during COVID-19.

The 2022 We Appreciate Teachers contest is sponsored by Republic Bank, Hooters, Athleta & Lynfred Winery.

WHEN: **Monday, May 2nd from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**
Lincoln Common Apartments (Rooftop); 2345 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, IL 60614

WHAT: Fifteen winning teachers who’ve been selected from a statewide nomination process will receive Back 2 School Illinois kits for their classroom (full of 30 much-needed school supplies). Each teacher will also receive a gift basket. At the event, some of the individuals who nominated the teachers will also be present.

NOTE: **THIS EVENT IS NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

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About Back 2 School Illinois

The Back 2 School program was launched in 2007 by the Community Currency Exchange Association of Illinois to address the pressing needs of communities and the inequities in educational opportunities for children. In 2015 the nonprofit changed its' name to Back 2 School Illinois to reflect the work of the organization.

Today, B2SI is the largest free school supplies program in the state, serving children of low-income households and lessening the financial burden for their families. The Back 2 School program has provided more than 300,000 children with their own school supply kit since its inception. The organization's long-term goal is to provide the more than one million Illinois children from low-income families each year with the school supplies they need to succeed in the classroom.

In the summer of 2018, B2SI launched Back 2 School America, which is aimed at providing Back 2 School kits to children across the USA.

For more information and for details about upcoming events, please visit www.b2si.org.