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Fitzgerald High School Teacher Among 30 Educators Across the U.S. Invited to D.C. Conference by C-SPAN

Social studies teacher Jen Crotty attends conference to learn how to incorporate public affairs in the classroom



WARREN, Mich. — **Fitzgerald High School** teacher **Jen Crotty** was among 30 educators from across the nation selected to attend C-SPAN Classroom’s 2016 Educators’ Conference in Washington, D.C. July 14-15.

Crotty, a social studies teacher, was also named the Outstanding High School Teacher of the Year earlier this year by the Macomb Intermediate School District.

“This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity will enable me to better incorporate lessons about American politics and government into my classroom,” Crotty said. “The election year provides a great backdrop for students to learn about the political process and how our democracy works. C-SPAN’s educational resources, combined with what I learned at the conference, will provide incredible opportunities for my students to analyze and discuss political campaigns.”

Crotty competed with high school teachers from across the country to secure a place at the conference. C-SPAN provided roundtrip airfare, hotel accommodations and meals for the two days. The conference provided educators with the opportunity to explore C-SPAN’s programs and C-SPAN Classroom’s free primary source materials, and attendees discovered how to incorporate these resources into their curriculums and create engaged learning experiences for students.

“Jennifer Crotty is a remarkable educator who sparks a passion for learning in students, and she continually strives to relate her lessons to real-life politics that her students are hearing discussed at the dinner table and in the news,” said Superintendent **Barbara VanSweden**. “Ms. Crotty is an outstanding example of the passion our teachers and school employees have for educating students at Fitzgerald Public Schools.”

Participants were selected by a panel of C-SPAN representatives and evaluated based on their dedication to learning new resources, applying them in the classroom environment, and sharing their professional development experiences in their academic communities.

“The educators’ conference provides an opportunity for teachers to discover creative strategies to integrate C-SPAN programming into classroom activities,” said **Craig McAndrew**, C-SPAN Manager of Education Relations. “Our goal is to connect students with public affairs content that cultivates a better understanding of how our federal government works.”

Conference attendees heard from C-SPAN staff and leadership, including Founder and Executive Chairman Brian Lamb, to learn more about the public affairs network. In addition, C-SPAN Political Editor Steve Scully spoke about [Campaign 2016](#) during the conference dinner.

The Cable-Satellite Public Affairs Network, better known as C-SPAN, is a private non-profit company created in 1979 by the cable television industry as a public service. C-SPAN covers live gavel-to-gavel floor proceedings of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate, as well as public affairs events, congressional hearings, history programming, press briefings, speeches and news conferences related to public affairs.

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About C-SPAN Classroom:

C-SPAN Classroom is a free membership service dedicated to supporting educators’ use of C-SPAN programming and websites in their classes or for research. Members of C-SPAN Classroom may access free Timely Teachable Videos and video clips for use in the classroom, as well as lesson plans, handouts and ways to connect with other C-SPAN Classroom members. C-SPAN Classroom has reached more than one million students since its inception in 1987. For more information on C-SPAN Classroom visit the website: <http://www.c-spanclassroom.org/> or follow on twitter: [@CSPAN Classroom](#).

About C-SPAN:

Created by the cable TV industry and now in 100 million TV households, C-SPAN programs three public affairs television networks in both SD and HD; C-SPAN Radio, heard in Washington DC and nationwide via XM Satellite Radio; and a video-rich website which hosts the C-SPAN Video Library. Visit <http://www.c-span.org> for coverage and schedules; like us on [Facebook/cspan](#) and follow [@cspan](#) on Twitter.