

**Desiree Rogers Remarks
Chicago Foundation for Education Reception
January 18, 2007**

Good evening and thank you for being here tonight for this very special event.

The impact of a teacher on a child's life is immense, but the impact of an *outstanding* teacher like those we honor today is invaluable.

The Fund for Teachers fellowship program provides outstanding educators with the opportunity to bring fresh curriculum to the classroom based on extraordinary life experience.

The impact tonight's honorees will have on Chicago students will go far beyond curriculum improvements. By example, you are teaching Chicago children the importance of life experience, cultural exchange, and life-long learning as they forge the paths to their futures.

The Chicago Foundation for Education has a rich history of providing innovative programs that resonate with and engage students, providing teachers with the resources necessary to impact students' lives far beyond the time they spend together in the classroom.

Peoples Energy is proud to be a part of these.

One example of such a program is the Peoples Energy Small Science Grants program. The program encourages teachers to develop innovative classroom curricula in the areas of science, energy and technology.

Support for education is a cornerstone of the corporate contributions program at Peoples Energy.

In recent years, we have supported more than 30 organizations who work with the Chicago Public Schools, and an additional 30 organizations that work with students outside the classroom in after-school, summer, tutoring, mentoring, and youth development programs.

I offer my congratulations to each and every one of tonight's honorees for your achievement and the contribution you are making to children's lives in Chicago.

Peoples Energy is proud to sponsor this reception in your honor and to support the Chicago Foundation for Education. Please help me welcome Richard Turner, Peoples Energy Manager of Corporate Contributions.

Thank you.