



Carol S. Adams – Manhattan, KS

“Learning is a shared responsibility between teacher and student, a collegial relationship with both parties having specific responsibilities,” is Carol S. Adams’s philosophy of teaching. She further shares that she “experiences a heady rush when I look at the work students produce in my classes.” Throughout her 40-year career she found that “together we learned to succeed, to experience happiness, and to attain confidence in our talents and abilities”.

To start her educational path, she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Theater and English from Fort Hays State University in 1974, followed by earning a master’s degree in Secondary/ Community Counseling from Kansas State University in 1978. She has continued her growth with many graduate hours and professional growth activities beyond her earned degrees.

Her work in a classroom began in Westmoreland High School in 1976 while teaching English, Speech, Forensics, and a variety of mini courses. She then moved to Manhattan High School in 1978 where she designed and implemented an Advanced Placement Literature and Composition class and a team-taught U.S. History/Literature class. In addition she taught American Literature, Mass Media, Intro. To Film, and Writing. In 2005 she became the Director of Secondary Education with oversight for Grades 7-12 with the Manhattan-Ogden USD #383 district, followed by serving as the Executive Director of Teaching and Learning with oversight for Prek-12+ with USD #383 until 2016.

She has received the “Bob Srack Excellence in Teaching Award” nomination four times. She was an “Outstanding Young Educator” nominee in 1985. Carol became a “Kansas Master Teacher” in 1988. Her list of honors includes being a “Kansas Teacher of the Year, Region 2 semi-finalist” in 2003, as well as the “University of Kansas Outstanding Teacher and Mentor of High School Students” for numerous years. She currently belongs to the “Kansas Exemplary Education Network “.

Beyond the classroom, Carol has been involved in many community activities. She was a member of the Delta Kappa Gamma, Eta Chapter. She was also a Co-Den Leader for Cub Scout Pack 75 and the Webelos Den. Other activities included the “One Book, One Community” with the Manhattan Public Library and being a member of “Yard Art Classics Car Club.” She serves as president of the Manhattan Area Retired Educators Association and has also served as the Legislative and Scholarship Chairpersons from 2017-2019 in this organization.

“Few teachers have had as great a positive impact on my life as a student and now educator as Mrs. Adams did,” states Wesley Fryer, Ph.D. “Her passion for innovative, engaged learning, willingness to take instructional risks and push both students and colleagues to new heights, and continual drive to pursue educational excellence in all she does are hallmarks of her legacy as a Kansas Educator.”

We are thrilled to welcome this worthy individual and educator to the 2022 Class of the Kansas Teachers' Hall of Fame.