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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**JEFFCO TEACHER ROCKS SCIENCE AWARD**

Green Mountain High School earth science teacher Jonna Gentry has been named the *2012 American Association of Petroleum Geologists Foundation (AAPG) Earth Science Teacher of the Year*.

The honor comes with a \$5,000 prize from the AAPG Foundation to be split between Gentry and Green Mountain High School.

Gentry instructs regular and honors level earth science classes and a beginning robotics class, which she said allows her to see the world from an engineer's perspective.

"Being recognized for the time and energy that teaching requires is a great honor," Gentry said.

"This award is an encouragement that my hard work and passion for my career have been well worth the time."

Gentry received a Bachelor of Science degree in physical science with a double minor in chemistry and biochemistry from Colorado State University. She also serves as a volunteer and on the board of directors for the Friends of Dinosaur Ridge in Morrison, CO.

Gentry also receives an all-expense paid trip to the AAPG Annual Convention and Exhibition in Long Beach on April 22-25, where she will be presented with her award at the All-Convention Luncheon. A feature interview with Gentry will be published in the April convention issue of the *EXPLORER*.

The Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists nominated Gentry for the award.