

## Central Nine Instructors Become Semifinalists for Teaching Excellence Award

Steve Owen and Andrice Tucker, instructors in the Auto Service Program at Central Nine Career Center, were recently selected as semifinalists for the Harbor Freight Tools for Schools 2018 Prize for Teaching Excellence out of 52 entries, placing them in the top 9% of teachers/teacher teams to advance to the next round of the application and review.

Tucker, who is also a former Central Nine student and has worked in his field for fourteen years, is in his second year of teaching at the career center. "In our program the main thing I like to preach is that we don't just teach them our trade, we teach them employable skills as well. We teach them how to be good people in the workforce and how to work well with others," Says Tucker.

With twenty-eight years of industry experience, Owen is in his fifth year of teaching at Central Nine, with additional experience as an Adjunct Instructor with Ivy Tech for 13 years. When asked what makes their program so unique Owen added, "we teach (our students) a lot of life skills. One of our goals is to prepare the students for one of two things. Students will either go right into the workforce after they leave here, or we're preparing them for college. We teach them more than just working on cars. We're trying to train them to be better human beings as well as what it means to be a good employee or student."

Since 1972 Central Nine has been encouraging students from it's nine plus sending high schools to become successful adults. After graduation, students will possess the tools and knowledge to either get started in their field or continue on to postsecondary schooling with earned dual credits already completed. It is quality instructors like Steve Owen and Andrice Tucker that make that possible. At Central Nine, we take enormous pride in our staff and faculty, and are proud that incredible programs like the Harbor Freight Tools for Schools are currently honoring Owen and Tucker for outstanding teaching in the skilled trades.

[About Central Nine]

Central Nine exists to engage and empower students by providing career-based instruction in an innovative learning environment. We make an IMPACT on our students' personal and professional SKILLS, which enables them to succeed in post-secondary and career opportunities. Central Nine serves students from the following schools: Beech Grove High School, Center Grove High School, Franklin Central High School, Franklin Community High School, Greenwood High School, Indian Creek High School, Perry Meridian High School, Southport High School, and Whiteland Community High School. For more information visit <http://central9.k12.in.us/>

[About Harbor Freight Tools for Schools]

For more information see their attached press release.

[Images Attached]

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