

**Jerry Kamps**  
**2000 Friend of Education**

In his retirement, after thirty-four years of teaching art at Beaver Dam High School, Jerry Kamps continues to bring his love of art, history, and learning, to youth. Since his retirement nine years ago, Kamps has been a volunteer for the district's Project AWARE program. He gives monthly art appreciation presentations in classrooms, volunteers as a visiting artist, and participates in the fourth grade's architecture walk. As he has done for over forty years, Jerry continues to direct set design and painting for Beaver Dam High School productions. Kamps frequently judges student art exhibits and is well known as a contact, advisor, and often a hands-on helper when community organizations need assistance with art projects. Nominator Sue Scafe, who is the district's Project AWARE and Character Education Coordinator, says "Mr. Kamps is an ideal role model- a teacher who former students continue to acknowledge as an inspiration - for our youth and adult population as well."

To offer more educational opportunities in the community, Kamps volunteers time to the Dodge County Historical Museum where he has organized and mounted several major exhibits. In response to teachers' requests, he gives tours of the museum to students in the area and helps with historical research. He is in his tenth year as a board member of the museum.

As charter member, former president, and current publicity chair and board member of the Beaver Dam Area Arts Association, Kamps provides leadership in organizing programs and exhibits at the Seippel Homestead and Center for the Arts. He volunteers as a docent, teaches art workshops for children, and has chaired or co-chair major exhibits, including the annual Youth Art Month exhibit.

Jerry is a co-founder and charter member of the Beaver Dam Community Theatre. Since its beginning in 1964, he has directed students and adults to create many unique set designs for the theatre's productions. Jerry's service to youth is also apparent in the twelve years he served as Director of Religious Education, grades 7 through 10, for St. Patrick's Church.

In a testimonial letter, John B. McKinstry states, "These contributions to the community and to the education of children are, of course, beyond what he contributed for many years through the interests and activities of his own four children. In every way, Jerry Kamps is an exemplary Friend of Education."