



Nov. 14, 2014

The Honorable Nikki Haley  
Office of the Governor  
State of South Carolina  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley,

On behalf of the board of SC Future Minds and educators across South Carolina, we would be deeply honored if you would help us mark 51 continuous years of the SC Teacher of the Year Celebration by keynoting our next Celebration on April 20, 2016. Given your work for our State's schools and children, we believe that you will inspire and encourage these teachers as no other speaker can.

As you know, the banquet is held at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center and is a celebration of public education involving educators, legislators and state business leaders, many of whom are sponsors of the event and supporters of South Carolina Future Minds. During the evening we will honor more than 80 District Teachers of the Year, one of whom will be named the 2016-17 South Carolina Teacher of the Year. You have often been present, so you know that this event is inspiring and often thought-provoking. It begins with a reception at 6:00 p.m. followed by a dinner program at 7:00 p.m. We expect to complete the evening by 9:00. The evening is made possible through the sponsorship of statewide business partners such as BMW, BlueCross BlueShield, Michelin and more. We anticipate as many as 500 guests. The media cover the event, particularly the announcement of the new State Teacher of the Year, who receives the keys to a brand new BMW for the next year.

So, we have two requests:

- **Will you give the keynote address at the 2016 SC Teacher of the Year Celebration?**
- **As you have for the past many years, will you allow us to include you as a member of the Celebration's Honorary Host Committee?**

Gov. Haley, thank you for considering these requests. It would be an honor to all teachers to have you deliver your inspirational remarks to this landmark SC Teacher of the Year Celebration. You or members of your staff may feel free to call me on my cell phone at 843-601-0435 or email me at [trip@scfutureminds.org](mailto:trip@scfutureminds.org). I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest possible convenience.

*Hope you can join us!*

With Warm Regards,

Trip DuBard  
Executive Director

cc: Nella G. Barkley, Board Chair