



September 12, 2016

Dear Mr. Ognjanovic,

The Yale University Office of Undergraduate Admissions is pleased to announce that a member of the community at Mathematical Gymnasium, **Dr. Sonja Cukic**, has been selected as a recipient of the 2016 Yale Educator Award.

This award, sponsored by the Yale Office of Undergraduate Admissions, recognizes educators from around the world who inspire and support their students to perform at high levels and to achieve excellence.

Students entering the Yale Class of 2020 were asked to nominate outstanding educators who have deeply impacted their lives. Dr. Cukic was nominated for the award by **Jana Vranes**, then selected as a winner by a committee in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. As our committee reviewed nominations, we were constantly reminded of the unique and critical role that exceptional educators play in shaping their students' futures by encouraging them to pursue their goals.

Below, you will find a press release for the local media so that your community may also join in congratulating this outstanding educator. (Feel free to copy/paste the press release below.) In addition to a congratulatory letter, each Yale Educator Award winner also receives an engraved desk set. We hope that you will join us in honoring Dr. Sonja Cukic for the significant role she plays in your school and in the lives of your students.

Sincerely,

Mark Dunn, Associate Director of Admissions

John Yi, Senior Assistant Director of Admissions



# Yale

## **PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Mark Dunn ([mark.dunn@yale.edu](mailto:mark.dunn@yale.edu)) or John Yi ([john.yi@yale.edu](mailto:john.yi@yale.edu)) Phone: [203 432 9316](tel:2034329316)

Yale University announces recipients of the 2016 Yale Educator Award

New Haven, Conn. — Dr. Sonja Cukic of Mathematical Gymnasium has been recognized by the Yale Office of Undergraduate Admissions as a recipient of the 2016 Yale Educator Award.

The Yale Educator Recognition Program recognizes outstanding educators from around the world who support and inspire their students to perform at high levels and to achieve excellence. Of this year's 326 nominees, who represent 33 states and 24 countries, 55 teachers and 28 counselors were selected to receive the award. Matriculating students are invited to nominate high school educators, and a committee of Yale admissions officers reviews each nomination individually and designates recipients. In September, the winners were sent engraved desk sets and congratulatory letters, and administrators of the high schools were notified of their achievement.

Yale is a top research university with a unique emphasis on undergraduate liberal arts education. All 5,400 undergraduate students enroll in Yale College, which offers more than 80 majors and hundreds of opportunities to conduct groundbreaking research. Undergraduates at Yale come from all 50 states and more than 70 foreign countries. More than 14% of Yale students will be the first in their families to complete a four-year degree, and 40% are US Citizens or Permanent Residents who identify as members of a minority group. Yale offers admission to students without regard to their ability to pay, and meets 100% of every student's financial need with an award that does not include loans. Currently 64% of Yale undergraduates receive financial assistance, and Yale budgets \$121 million annually for need-based financial aid. The 1,373 members of the Yale Class of 2020 who began their first semester in August 2016 graduated from more than 1,000 different high schools, 60% of which are public schools.

The Yale Admissions Office attributes the exceptional quality of the Yale student body to educators like these recipients of the 2016 Yale Educator Award, who shape their students long before they attend Yale. The Admissions Office is proud to thank these and all educators for their ongoing efforts in motivating and supporting their students.

###

For further information, please contact [mark.dunn@yale.edu](mailto:mark.dunn@yale.edu) or [john.yi@yale.edu](mailto:john.yi@yale.edu).