



TO BEST UNDERSTAND THE MISSION

The sphere that **Sheldon holds** is a **gift to be shared**, it is the symbol of knowledge that is in everyone's grasp. The child is in awe of the teacher who offers it with respect and guidance. It holds the ability to seek what the imagination holds. It provides the basic clues to the adventure of hopes and dreams. Once taken, it must be shared, so others in turn will offer what they have found in their quest for adventure. It is what makes us part of each other into a greater whole of wisdom and beauty. It is the very key that has made mankind progress from humble beginnings. **To pass the key is an act of love.**

Creating the environment to inspire and gently maneuver the child to realize the means to take his thoughts to a different level is magical. We are not wizards but we serve as the backbone of our democracy and it is our duty to instill and preserve the AMERICAN CREED.

In 1944 our country was in great peril. It was feared that the propaganda of prejudice from Europe would subvert and erode our democratic ideals. Our

young innocent **GI JOES who died on the battle field needed support.** You are too young to remember but must not forget the pledge that was called the **SPRINGFIELD PROJECT.**

It served as a beacon of what America stood for and the embodiment of what our soldiers were dying for. It was meant to flourish and spread across Americana but instead **it was silently swept under the carpet** as soon as the war ended.

This award, if you choose to except the challenge, is to rejuvenate the Springfield Project by reviewing the book, film and transcripts and to observe the episodes of Jane Elliott on YouTube.

You will submit a project, whether it be a method, strategy, lesson plan, play or significant exposure that will achieve the objective of imprinting that special experience of awareness that enables insight into the pervasive nature of prejudice.

If we be a nation that builds it's **strength from capital** then it is you, the educators, that must secure that most precious resource.

This great wealth lies in our **HUMAN CAPITAL** and you hold the **KEY** that validates our country's worth. Springfield was designed to promote the American Creed of equal inclusion to secure America's potential to become **ONE** in that pursuit. You are asked to **RE-KINDLE that flame.**