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## Mount Rainier National Park News Release

For Immediate Release  
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### **Mount Rainier National Park Receives Grants to Hire Teachers for the Summer**

Mount Rainier National Park recently received notice that they have been awarded a 2009 National Park Service Youth Partnerships Program (YPP) grant in the amount of \$23,105. Earlier this year, the park's Education Program received a second-year grant in the amount of \$80,000 from the US-Japan Foundation to fund continued work on the multi-year Mount Rainier-Mount Fuji Sister Mountain Curriculum Development Project (Sister Mountain Project). These grants will enable the park to expand and build on last summer's very successful pilot Teacher-Ranger-Teacher (TRT) Program as well as continue international curriculum development and host the first international Sister Mountain Teacher Exchange Workshop.

In 2008, the park's Interpretive Operation and Education Program were able to hire five Teacher-Ranger-Teachers with first-year funding from both the National Park Service's Youth Partnership Program and the US-Japan Foundation. Last summer, one TRT worked at Paradise and Longmire, providing visitor programming and services and four TRTs worked on the Mount Rainier-Mount Fuji Sister Mountain Curriculum Development Team. "This summer, we are very excited to be able to hire up to eight TRTs for similar positions, nearly doubling last year's pilot program," says Anne Doherty-Stephan, the park's Teacher-Ranger-Teacher Program Coordinator and Education Program Manager. There will be two Interpretation Teacher-Ranger-Teachers, one on the west side of the park and one on the east. Last year's four Education TRTs will be returning and joined by two additional Sister Mountain Curriculum Development Team TRTs; these two positions are targeted for middle and high school level humanities and social sciences teachers to round out the returning science teacher team members.

The Teacher-Ranger-Teacher application forms are available on the park's website at <http://www.nps.gov/mora/forteachers/professionaldevelopment.htm>. The application deadline is May 15<sup>th</sup>. For more information about these and other exciting teacher programs and education projects, please visit the website or contact Anne Doherty-Stephan, either by email at [Anne\\_Doherty@nps.gov](mailto:Anne_Doherty@nps.gov) or phone at 360-569-6039.

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