

# Symposium 2010 National Network for Youth Awards of Excellence

Each year the National Network for Youth recognizes and celebrates individual and agency members whose outstanding achievements have significantly advanced the field of youth work. National Network members submit nominations, which are reviewed by a special committee of members made up of the Board, Medallion and Founders Association, and National Council on Youth Policy. The Annual Awards of Excellence will be presented at the Awards Reception on Tuesday, January 26, 2010 as part of the Symposium program. **The deadline for receiving nominations is December 4, 2009.**

## **Lifetime Achievement Award**

The Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes an individual for his or her lifetime commitment and contribution to the field of youth work. This is the highest honor bestowed by the National Network and is only given after careful consideration and deliberation by the Awards Committee. In addition to the award, the recipient will receive a lifetime membership with the National Network as well as their name placed on a permanent plaque on display in the Washington, DC office. Award may be given posthumously.

### Eligibility Criteria:

1. Candidates for this award must be National Network members in good standing for at least 10 years.
2. Candidates should have a minimum of 20 years of distinguished service in the field of youth work.

In addition to the nomination form, the following supporting materials must also be included:

1. Resume or curriculum vitae of candidate summarizing education; work experience; awards received; service at the local, state, national, and international levels; publications; and service to the National Network or other professional organizations.
2. Letters of recommendation – 2 or more letters of recommendation must be included. Recommenders should describe their affiliation with the candidate and provide their name, title, organization, address and telephone number. Letters of recommendation should focus on the quality and distinction of the candidate's lifetime achievement rather than a single contribution.

## **Golden Pen Media Award**

The National Network for Youth sponsors an annual award to recognize and encourage excellence in national reporting on youth issues. Eligible candidates include broadcast and print reporters, television and radio personalities, editors, and other media personnel who have worked to deliver positive coverage of youth issues.

### Eligibility Criteria:

This award is open to all media persons, inclusive of youth and adults.

## **Volunteer of the Year**

The Volunteer of the Year Award recognizes an individual volunteer who has performed outstanding service in his/her community. The National Network for Youth will choose one winner to receive an award recognizing service as well as a \$200 honorarium and 1 free registration for Symposium 2011. The nominating agency will receive a commemorative plaque.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. The nominating agency must be a current member (organization or coalition) of the National Network in good standing for at least 2 years. The award is open to youth and adult volunteers.
2. Volunteer service must have been performed without pay and cannot be part of an individual's course or curriculum requirements. Reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses, such as materials or travel, is not considered pay. Volunteer activities must have been conducted within the past 12 months. Activities conducted prior to this time will be considered as part of the candidate's history only.

**Youth Worker of the Year Award**

This award recognizes an outstanding youth worker who regularly performs beyond expectations to make significant contributions to his or her agency, community, and the youth work profession. Management and administrative staff, board members, and executive directors are not eligible for this award. In addition to an award, the recipient will receive a \$500 honorarium. The award is open to youth and adult staff of member agencies of the National Network for Youth.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. The candidate must be employed with a National Network agency member.
2. The member agency must be a member in good standing for at least 2 years.

**Executive Leadership Award of Excellence**

The Executive Leadership Award of Excellence recognizes Executive Directors/CEO's and senior level managers/supervisors who have made significant contributions to the field of youth services consistent with the mission and guiding principles of the National Network. This award was created to highlight the importance of leadership in an organization's achievement of mission-related results. In addition to the award, the recipient will receive 1 free registration to Symposium 2011. The award is open to youth and adults.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Candidate's agency must be a National Network member in good standing for at least 2 years.
2. The candidate must be employed by the agency for at least 1 year.

**Donna Valle Distinguished Networking Award**

The Donna Valle Distinguished Networking Award is presented to a National Network member (individual, coalition or organization) in recognition of exemplary leadership and participation in networking. The Award recognizes collaboration, resource-sharing and partnership-building among National Network members in order to improve conditions for youth and their families. In addition to the award, the recipient will receive 1 free registration to Symposium 2011. The Award is open to youth and adults.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Candidates for this award must be National Network members in good standing for at least 2 years.
2. The candidate has promoted networking, collaboration, coalition-building and resource sharing at the local, state, regional or national level for the past year.

## **Agency of the Year**

The Agency of the Year Award is presented to a National Network member agency to honor the vital role that youth agencies play in the healthy development of youth, families and communities. In addition to the award, the agency will receive National Network membership for 1 year (2010–2011).

### Eligibility Criteria:

1. Candidates for this award must be National Network members in good standing for at least 2 years.
2. A letter of recommendation from a sister agency in the local community is required. The letter should describe how the agency benefits youth, families and community.

## **Youth Leadership Award**

This award recognizes the essential and vital role which youth leaders play and affirms the National Network's commitment to strengthen youth voice, develop young leaders and nurture future citizens who contribute to a more just and equitable society. In addition to the award, the recipient will receive a \$200 honorarium.

### Eligibility Criteria:

1. The candidate (age 21 and under) is an employee or volunteer with a National Network agency member. Agency must be a member in good standing for at least 2 years.
2. The candidate has demonstrated leadership and involvement in school and community activities, as well as service to others.
3. The candidate has made significant contributions toward creating positive attitudes about active, participatory roles for youth at the local, state, regional or national levels.

***Important Note: National Network Board members, Policy Council members, and/or their family members are not eligible for awards during their term in service. NNY staff is not eligible at any time.***

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## NOMINATION APPLICATION

(This nomination form can be used for any of the National Leadership Awards of Excellence. Nominator acknowledges and accepts eligibility rules as established by the National Network for Youth. Please make additional copies of this form if you are submitting more than one nomination. A nominee may be considered for only one award. Nominations may be mailed or faxed.)

Please check the appropriate box for the award for which this nomination is submitted.

**AWARD (check only ONE per nomination application):**

- Lifetime Achievement Award
- Advocacy Spirit Award
- Golden Pen Media Award
- Volunteer of the Year Award
- Youth Worker of the Year Award
- Executive Leadership Award of Excellence
- Donna Valle Distinguished Networking Award
- Agency of the Year Award
- Youth Leadership Award

**CANDIDATE INFORMATION:**

Candidate Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOMINATOR INFORMATION:**

Nominator Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach additional pages and/or information to this form, which answer the following questions:**

A. Please describe the candidate's efforts, programs or services which address the award criterion as described.

B. Why do you feel the candidate should receive the selected award?

**ENDORSEMENTS:** Please list 2 endorsers (other than yourself) that we may contact for more information about the candidate.

**Reference Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reference Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit this form to:  
Symposium 2010 Awards of Excellence  
National Network for Youth  
1140 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 1210, Washington, DC 20036  
Fax to (202) 783-7955

**Nomination forms must be received by December 4, 2009.**