Salute to Excellence 2016

Volunteer Recognition Awards Nomination Information

The National 4-H Salute to Excellence Volunteer Recognition Award recognizes 4-H volunteers who demonstrate exemplary service to 4-H, while promoting service through volunteerism as both an opportunity and a privilege.

New York State 4-H will select one nominee for each category as our New York 4-H Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer and Volunteer of the Year. New York State honorees will be recognized at the New York State 4-H Foundation Annual Dinner.

These nominations will then be submitted for Regional Award consideration. In 2016, eight regional honorees will be selected; one volunteer from each Cooperative Extension Region (Northeast, South, North Central, West) in each of two categories. Each region will have its own Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer and Volunteer of the Year. The eight regional honorees become nominees for the national award, and one volunteer in each category will be named the national honoree.

Award Criteria

1. The Volunteer of the Year Award (VOY) is for currently serving 4-H volunteers who have served as 4-H volunteers for less than 10 years at the local, county, district or state level.
2. The Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer Award (OLV) is for current or former 4-H volunteers who have served 10 or more years at the local, county, district or state level.

Nomination Procedures

1. Nomination Packets must be submitted by a nominator to the New York State 4-H Program by September 28, 2015. Nomination packets may be emailed to ask37@cornell.edu or mailed to New York State 4-H, Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research, Cornell University, Beebe Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853.
2. A completed nomination will consist of a nomination resume of the applicant’s 4-H and relevant community volunteer experiences and three (3) letters of recommendation. Please use the attached template when developing the nomination packet. A packet missing any of the four components (Resume’ and three letters of recommendation) will be eliminated.
3. Letters of recommendation should be no longer than 2 pages in length, in 12-point font with 1-inch margins. Letters of Recommendation should be written by individuals who can best describe the nominee’s qualifications for the award such as a 4-H staff member, 4-H youth participant, another volunteer, etc.
Award Information

1. New York State 4-H will select one nominee for each category (VOY & OLV) from its pool of nominations, and submit it for Regional Award consideration.
2. State honorees will be recognized at the New York State 4-H Foundation Annual Meeting in November 2015.
3. A National Selection Committee appointed by Council will select a recipient from each region; one for each category (VOY & OLV). From this pool of regional honorees, the selection committee will then identify one national honoree for each category (VOY & OLV).
4. Regional honorees will be announced by February 1, 2016.
5. Regional honorees will be recognized by their state 4-H program in an appropriate manner and venue of its choosing.
6. Council will send each regional honoree a personalized plaque and donate $200 in the honoree’s name to a local 4-H program of the honoree’s choice.
7. National honorees will be announced during National Volunteer Week, April 10 – 16, 2016.
8. National honorees will be recognized on Friday of National 4-H Week during the 2016 4-H Heritage Luncheon held at the National 4-H Center, Chevy Chase, MD.
9. During the luncheon, national honorees will receive a plaque or similar symbol of their achievement. Council will also donate $1,000 in the honoree’s name to a local 4-H program of the honoree’s choice.
10. **Nomination applications must be complete.** Only a State 4-H Official can officially designate a volunteer as a state nominee for Regional and National consideration. If your nominee is selected, you agree to the criteria set forth in this application and also agree to utilize the 4-H name and emblem when implementing and publicizing the program.

**INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE DISQUALIFIED**

Thank you for your interest in the **2016 4-H Salute to Excellence Volunteer Recognition Awards!**
Salute to Excellence 2016
Volunteer Recognition Awards Nomination Resume’

Nominator Information
Name:
Street address:
Post Office, State, zip code:
Email:

Nomination for (check one):
___ Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer (10 or more years of service to 4-H)
___ Volunteer of the Year (less than 10 years of service to 4-H)

Nominee Information
Name:
Street address:
Post Office, State, zip code:
Email:
County, State

Photo
Please include a high quality, 600dpi head and shoulders photo of the nominee. If selected, nominee’s photo, name, state and 4-H highlights will be posted on the 4-H.org website.

Donation Information
If selected, a cash donation will be made in the honoree’s name to the 4-H entity of his or her choosing. Please include the following information to be used if this nominee is selected as an honoree.
Check made payable to:
Name and address where check is to be sent:

Please provide the following:
• Three letters of recommendation
• Resume’
Resume’
Please provide the following information (Limited to three pages, front only, 12-point font, 1 inch margins)

A. Brief overview (500 words or less) of why the nominee deserves this award.

B. Evidence of a positive impact on the lives of 4-H youth
   • Demonstrated ability to work with young people in a way that promotes youth empowerment, decision-making, problem-solving, meeting challenges, and mastery.
   • Nominee’s dedication to youth/adult partnerships and developing mentor-learner relationships.

C. Evidence of a positive impact on the 4-H program
   • Nominee’s innovative approaches to engaging new youth and increasing diversity among participants
   • Dedication to providing a safe and inclusive environment for youth
   • Nominee’s innovative approaches to performing volunteer service, recruitment of additional 4-H volunteers, partnering with other youth serving agencies, fund raising, providing other resources for 4-H, advocacy of 4-H, etc.

D. Personal attributes
   • Evidence of professional attitude, character, and morals
   • Personal growth from being a 4-H volunteer (that you have observed)

E. Personal involvement in 4-H
   • List local 4-H roles (4-H Project Leader; Community 4-H Club Leader; etc). Include summary of years, roles and organizations.
   • List County (Parish)/District 4-H roles (County Extension Committee; etc.). Include summary of years, roles and organizations.
   • List State/Regional/National 4-H roles (Regional 4-H Volunteer Leader Forum Planning Committee, National 4-H Awards Selection Committee; etc.). Include summary of years, roles and organizations.
   • List relevant 4-H honors/awards and years received.
   • List relevant non-4-H volunteer roles. Include summary of years, roles and organizations.

F. Optional/FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY
   • If nominee was involved in 4-H as a young person, indicate the state where nominee was involved, type of involvement (4-H projects taken, 4-H camper, etc.), years of membership, exemplary awards, leadership roles, etc.
   • Current position (professional/homemaker). If retired, most recent role.