

2020 SPIRIT OF YOUTH AWARD

PURPOSE

The Spirit of Youth Award recognizes a young adult who has made great strides following involvement with the juvenile justice system; has overcome personal obstacles; and is making significant contributions to society. The award provides an important opportunity to learn from a young person about the hard work and dedication it takes to build a better life, and how juvenile justice professionals and systems can most effectively support the youth they serve. This honors the commitment the young person and those that have supported them to help them find their success.

CRITERIA

The award recipient must be:

- Under 24 years of age,
- A person who was adjudicated delinquent/involved in the juvenile justice system,
- Currently involved, directly or indirectly, in bettering the lives of youth; and
- Nominated by a former system worker or member of the community.

SELECTION

The Nebraska Juvenile Justice Association (NJJA) Board of Directors will review nominations utilizing a rubric. All nominees will be informed of the decision made by February 28th, 2020. The awardee's nomination will be forward to the National Juvenile Justice Coalition for consideration in the National Spirit of Youth Award. Nomination forms will be seen only by those reviewing nominations to protect confidentiality.

PRESENTATION

The recipient will be honored at the NJJA Annual Conference at 12:00pm on May 7, 2020. The recipient will receive an honorary plaque, a one-time, \$500 scholarship to any Nebraska post-secondary institution or training program of the recipient's choice (must be used within 12 months of receiving the award), free conference registration and travel and/or lodging expenses to attend the NJJA 2020 Annual Conference award ceremony to accept their award. The NJJA conference is held at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney, NE. The recipient will be asked to sign a media release to allow for pictures to be publishing on the NJJA website and social media about their recognition.

DEADLINE FOR 2020 NOMINATIONS

All nominations must be received by February 28, 2020. Electronic submission is encouraged. Please mail, fax or email completed applications to:

Attn: Tom McBride
Nebraska Juvenile Justice Association
635 South 14th, Suite 200
Lincoln, NE 68508
tmcbride909@gmail.com

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NOMINATION

This award celebrates a young adult who, by overcoming personal obstacles and serving his or her community, exemplifies the importance of the rehabilitative focus of the juvenile justice system as well as the power of personal achievement.

Nominee Information:

Name: _____

Affiliation/Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Nominator Information:

Name: _____

Affiliation/Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Please answer the following questions about the nominee. Please limit all supporting material to no more than four pages.

1. How has the nominee transformed his or her life in a positive way?
2. What were the obstacles this person overcame?
3. What contributions has this person made in his or her community?
4. Why are you recommending this person for the Spirit of Youth Award?

For further information, contact Cassy Blakely at (402) 469-2023 or cassy.blakely@gmail.com