

**Diversity Advocacy
Dean of Students Office**

29th Annual Commitment to Diversity Awards Ceremony Criteria

The Commitment to Diversity Awards Ceremony recognizes current Illinois State University students, Registered Student Organizations, faculty, and staff who have demonstrated outstanding curricular and co-curricular programming, service, and research that embody the University's commitment to diversity.

Diversity is defined as differences among people with respect to age, ethnicity, gender, physical and mental ability, race, sexual orientation, spiritual practice and other human differences.

Evaluation of Nominees:

Based on the written nominations, each nominee will be evaluated on how closely they meet the specified criteria and qualifications. Please note that if there are insufficient descriptions or information in the submission or nomination, the nominee will not be evaluated adequately, and therefore will be ineligible. The selection committee consists of current ISU faculty, staff, and students.

Categories:

Legacy of Leadership (undergraduate)

Legacy of Leadership (graduate)

Outstanding Faculty

Outstanding Staff

Outstanding Registered Student Organization

Outstanding Greek Organization Award

Outstanding Organization Member

Outstanding New Program Award

Outstanding Established Program Award

Award Descriptions, Qualifications & Criteria:

Legacy of Leadership (undergraduate)

This award recognizes the efforts of one **undergraduate student** who has demonstrated progressive leadership, has had a measurable impact on the campus community, and has assisted the University in responding to its commitment to diversity.

Qualifications:

- Nominees must have junior or senior status
- Nominees must be in good academic and disciplinary standing with the University

Criteria:

- Nominee must have held various leadership positions during their time at ISU
- Nominee may have participated in University-sponsored or professional organization's leadership developmental activities
- Demonstrates commitment to an organization
- Provides leadership and vision for the organization
- Demonstrates ability to establish and maintain positive relationships with others
- Serves as a role model for other students on campus
- Demonstrates outstanding leadership characteristics and skills

Legacy of Leadership (graduate)

This award recognizes the efforts of one **graduate student** who has demonstrated progressive leadership, has had a measurable impact on the campus community, and has assisted the University in responding to its commitment to diversity.

Qualifications:

- Nominees must be graduate student or Ph.D student
- Nominees must be in good academic and disciplinary standing with the University

Criteria:

- Nominee must have held various leadership positions during their time at ISU
- Nominee may have participated in University-sponsored or professional organization's leadership developmental activities
- Demonstrates commitment to an organization
- Provides leadership and vision for the organization
- Demonstrates ability to establish and maintain positive relationships with others
- Serves as a role model for other students on campus
- Demonstrates outstanding leadership characteristics and skills

Outstanding Faculty

This award recognizes the efforts of a faculty member who has demonstrated a commitment to student development and has exceeded the requirements of their position to address the needs and concerns of underrepresented students by serving as an advisor, or through mentorship, leadership development or advocacy.

Qualifications:

- Nominees must be current ISU Faculty (tenure and non-tenure track)
- Nominees contributions fall outside the scope of their job description

Criteria:

- Demonstrates commitment to underrepresented students and/or organizations
- Provides leadership development opportunities to underrepresented students/groups
- Provides mentorship to underrepresented students
 - Underrepresented- International students, Black and Latinx students, Asian students, LGBT community, Veterans, students with disabilities, etc.
- Demonstrates outstanding leadership characteristics and skills
- Serves as an advocate for underrepresented students and/or organizations

Outstanding Staff

This award recognizes a staff member (Administrative Professional or Civil Service Employee) that has shown their commitment to student development and has exceeded the requirements of their position to address the needs and concerns of underrepresented students by serving as an advisor, or through mentorship, leadership development or advocacy.

Qualifications:

- Nominees must be a current ISU staff (Administrative Professional or Civil Service)
- Nominees contributions fall outside the scope of their job description

Criteria:

- Demonstrates commitment to underrepresented students and/or organizations
- Provides leadership development opportunities to underrepresented students/groups

- Underrepresented- International students, Black and Latinx students, Asian students, LGBT community, Veterans, students with disabilities, etc.
- Provides mentorship to underrepresented students
- Demonstrates outstanding leadership characteristics and skills
- Serves as an advocate for underrepresented students and/or organizations

Outstanding Registered Student Organization

This award recognizes the efforts of a registered student organization that has shown exemplary dedication to the University's commitment to diversity and has made a positive effort to provide underrepresented students with a supplemental source of support, advocacy, and leadership development.

Qualifications:

- Organization must be a Registered Student Organization at Illinois State University
- Organization must be in good standing with the University

Criteria:

- Develops positive collaborative relationships with other student organizations, community organizations, University departments, staff and faculty
- Organization makes significant and measurable contributions to the underrepresented and larger campus community
- Organization contributes positively to the personal and leadership development of its members
- Organization supports other campus events and other underrepresented student organizations
 - Underrepresented- International students, Black and Latinx students, Asian students, LGBT community, Veterans, students with disabilities, etc.
- Organization provides support, advocacy and services that meet the needs of underrepresented populations
- Organization develops events/programs that are educative, promotes high academic ideals, builds/improves cultural awareness, and/or advocates for the needs of underrepresented populations

Outstanding Greek Organization Award

This award recognizes the efforts of a fraternity or sorority that has shown exemplary dedication to the University's commitment to diversity and has made a positive effort to provide underrepresented students with a supplemental source of support, advocacy, and leadership development

Qualifications:

- Organization must be a registered student organization
- Organization must be in good standing with the University

Criteria:

- Develops positive collaborative relationships with other student organizations, community organizations, University departments, staff and faculty
- Organization makes significant and measurable contributions to the underrepresented and larger campus community
 - Underrepresented- International students, Black and Latinx students, Asian students, LGBT community, Veterans, students with disabilities, etc.
- Organization contributes positively to the personal and leadership development of its members
- Organization supports other campus events and other underrepresented student organizations
- Organization provides support, advocacy and services that meet the needs of underrepresented populations

- Organization develops events/programs that are educative, promotes high academic ideals, builds/improves cultural awareness, and/or advocates for the needs of underrepresented populations

Outstanding Organization Member

This award recognizes a member of a registered organization that has contributed to the organization's diversity goals without having held an elected role within the organization.

Qualifications:

- Nominees must be in good academic and disciplinary standing with the University

Criteria:

- Demonstrates commitment to the organization
- Consistently surpasses expectations of membership
- Demonstrated contributions to the organization and to the rest of the campus community
- Demonstrates outstanding leadership characteristics and skills
- Nominee does not hold an elected position within the organization

Outstanding New Program Award

This award recognizes the efforts of new and innovative events or programs designed to improve cultural awareness, advocacy, provide leadership development or supplemental support and a measurable impact on the University population.

Qualifications:

- Program must have occurred on campus within the current academic school year
- Sponsored by a registered student organization or University office/department
- Organization must be in good standing with the University

Criteria:

- Program must be a new event or program
- Program made significant contributions to the campus community
- Program improved cultural awareness, advocacy, provided leadership development or provided a supplemental source of support to underrepresented populations at ISU

Outstanding Established Program Award

This award recognizes the efforts of established events or programs designed to improve cultural awareness, advocacy, provided leadership development or supplemental support and had a measurable impact on the university population.

Qualifications:

- Program must have occurred on campus within this academic school year
- Sponsored by a registered student organization or university office/department
- Organization must be in good standing with the University

Criteria:

- Program must be an established event or program
- Program made significant contributions to the campus community
- Program improved cultural awareness, advocacy, provided leadership development or provided a supplemental source of support to underrepresented populations at ISU.

****Please note: Award recipients from the past three years are not eligible for nomination. Also, nominees are not eligible to nominate themselves****

Below are the past recipients:

2013

Legacy of Leadership Undergrad **LaCrisha McAllister**
Legacy of Leadership Grad **Flourice Richardson**
Outstanding Faculty **Pamela Hoff, Ph.D.**
Outstanding Staff **Nathan Bargar**
Outstanding Organization Member **Hillary Veitch**
Outstanding RSO **My Sister's Keeper**
Outstanding Greek Organization **Delta Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc.**
Outstanding Established Program **Best Buddies**
Outstanding New Program **PROUD**

2014

Legacy of Leadership Undergrad **Muriel Dorsey**
Legacy of Leadership Grad **Lydia Reitz**
Outstanding Faculty **Marinelly Castillo**
Outstanding Staff **Michael DeGeeter**
Outstanding Organization Member **Vanessa Ortiz**
Outstanding RSO **Black and Latino Male Movement**
Outstanding Established Program **College Mentors for Kids**
Outstanding New Program **Zumba Fiesta**

2015

Undergraduate Legacy of Leadership **Ashley Blain**
Graduate Legacy of Leadership **Heather Carnahan**
Outstanding Faculty **Dr. Lisa Szczepura (Chemistry)**
Outstanding Staff **Dave Bentlin (Office of the President)**
Outstanding Organization Member **Kayla Richardson (Epsilon Sigma Alpha)**
Outstanding Registered Student Organization **Spanish Club**
Outstanding Greek Organization **Gamma Phi Omega International Sorority, Inc.**
Outstanding Established Program **WGLT Public Radio**
Outstanding New Program **Human Library (University College)**
Student Partner in Diversity Award **Xavier Grady**
Staff Partner in Diversity Award **Angell Davis (Trio Student Services)**

2016

Undergraduate Legacy of Leadership **Ky Ford**
Graduate Legacy of Leadership **Kenneth Porter**
Outstanding Staff **Stacia Kock**
Outstanding Organization Member **Kristina McCormick Spanish Club**
Outstanding Established Program **Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) Celebration, Spanish Club**
Outstanding New Program **SPANISH CLUB Active Feet**
Student Partner in Diversity Award **Karly Enger**
Staff Partner in Diversity Award **Art Munin**