CAPITAL DISTRICT KIWANIS TEENAGER OF THE YEAR AWARD

AWARD OVERVIEW

Kiwanis is an international organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time. The purpose of the Teenager of the Year award is to give recognition to deserving teens for service to their school and community, citizenship, leadership performance, character, and academic achievements. If the nominee continues through the competition process at club, division, and district levels, the finalist will be awarded the title of Capital District Teenager of the Year along with $2,500.00 and a trip with their parents/guardians to the annual Kiwanis District Convention.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The Capital District welcomes applications from young people who are between the ages of 13 and 19 (not yet age 19) and are currently residing in DC, DE, MD, WV or VA. The following criteria will be used in choosing winners:

APPLICANTS MUST HAVE:

- Demonstrated a consistent and dedicated commitment to community service;
- Demonstrated positive spirit, courage, academic achievement, generosity, and high moral purpose;
- Shown initiative, tenacity, and unselfishness in pursuit of their community service efforts;
- Accomplished something that inspired others to make a positive difference in their community; and
- Made an impact beyond themselves that improved their community or the volunteer organization they support.

Statement of non-discrimination: The Capital District of Kiwanis International and the Capital District Kiwanis Foundation do not discriminate on the basis of any applicable protected classification including, but not limited to race, color, creed, national origin, ethnicity, religion, disability, age or sex, including sexual orientation and gender identity.

AWARD INCLUDES:

- $2,500 funded by the Capital District Kiwanis Foundation (choice of CD, check or savings bond)

- Recognition certificate
- Trip to the Kiwanis Capital District Convention (1 night hotel accommodation & tickets to Governors Gala)
- Recognition in the Kiwanis Capital District Convention program booklet and *The Capital Kiwanian*

TIMELINE

November 1 to January 31, at 5 p.m. EST: Students may apply online. Only complete applications will be accepted. No applications will be considered that are submitted after that date and time.

No later than March 1: Kiwanis Clubs will select and notify club winners and submit certified names to their Lt. Governor.

No later than April 1: Divisions will select and notify division winners and submit certified names to the Teenager of the Year District Chairperson.

No later than May 1: The district level winner will have been selected and the certified name sent to the District Governor.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Please read these requirements carefully before beginning the application process.

Applications must be completed and submitted by 5:00 p.m. EST on January 31of the award year. Please contact us well in advance of the deadline for any technical assistance. APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE DEADLINE. ONLY FULLY COMPLETED APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

All required fields and requested materials must be completed and uploaded before submitting the application. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. Contents of the application are considered public information once submitted and should not include private or privileged information.

Please use your full legal name. If you are known by a nickname, you may include it on the application where indicated. Please use a permanent address, phone number, and email address (not a school email address). You are given 30 days from the time you open and begin the application to review, revise, and submit all required documents. THIS INFORMATION CANNOT BE CHANGED ONCE YOUR APPLICATION IS SUBMITTED.

Correspondence regarding your application will be primarily through email. Your application will need to be signed by you and at least one parent or guardian to certify the validity of your application and to authorize the use of your information.

Applications require:

- Basic information about yourself: name, address, current grade, phone and email contacts to reach you;
- A personal statement from you; and
- Three (3) recommendations from adults who are unrelated to you.
    - One from a school faculty member
    - One from a community/non-profit organization or employer
    - One from an adult neighbor, clergy, or community leader

Your recommendation letters should speak to why your community service involvement makes you a strong candidate for the Capital District Teenager of the Year. Please provide a copy of the prompts below to the individuals who will be writing your recommendations.

- *Describe this student's local or national community service efforts.*
- *How have their efforts improved their community?*

Recommendation letters MUST be uploaded to the application unless prohibited by a school district or organization. Do not submit your application until all letters are uploaded. The only exception is that if a reference is not allowed to personally provide you with the letter, they may instead email the reference to toy@capitalkiwanis.org and include a statement saying they are not authorized to share the letter with you. Recommendations must be received by the 5 pm EST, January 31 deadline as well.

STATEMENT OF NOMINEE

Statements are judged on creativity, content, style, punctuation, spelling, and grammar. Your statement should range from 250 - 750 words, and must address the following three questions:

1. What three things have you learned during your community service experiences and how did these efforts result in a positive impact upon the community?

2. What have you learned from your community service and volunteer efforts about yourself and about the world around you?

3. How do you plan to incorporate those lessons learned into your future plans?

ENGAGEMENT

1. Indicate the grade in which each honor, award, office, or membership applies (7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12). If the same honor/award was received in multiple grades, list the honor/award only once, but indicate all grades the honor/award was received.

2. Take care to list school awards, school-related curricular activities, school-related extracurricular activities, and non-school related activities in the proper section of the application.

3. Do not duplicate memberships. For example, membership in band for grades 10,11,12 and elected band president for grade 12 yields two years of membership where no office was held (10-11) and one year of office/position of leadership (12). Selection for all-district, all-region, and/or all-state band is considered an additional honor or award and should also be included.

Example:

<u>School-Related Curricular Activities and Awards (Academic)</u>

Junior:	National Honor Society – member
	Spanish Club
	All-City Jazz Band
	All – A Honor Roll
Senior:	National Honor Society - President
	Drama Club
	All-State Jazz Band

<u>School-Related Extracurricular Activities and Awards (Non-Academic)</u>

Freshman:	Key Club – Member
	Interact – Member
	Varsity Indoor Track – team member
Sophomore:	Key Club – Vice-President

Junior:	Key Club – President
	Varsity Indoor Track – Team Captain
Senior:	Key Club – Lt. Governor
	Varsity Indoor Track – Team Captain
	Selected School Peer Tutor of the Year for 75 hours of service to students at East End Elementary School

Community and Employment Activities (Non-School Related)

Freshman:	Ballet Company of Virginia – taught 5-7 year olds - 20 hours
	Internship with Warner Graphics Art Studio – helped create newsletter for church

Community Service Awards

Senior:	Key Club Robert F. Lucas Outstanding Lt. Governor Award – nominated by the Key Clubs in my division for my leadership as Lt. Governor
	Church Student Youth Leader of the Year – awarded for outstanding service to Habitat to Humanity – 30 hours in West Virginia

You may contact us at toy@capitalkiwanis.org