

The Westchester Division of the National Association of Social Workers requests nominations for its Social Worker of the Year, Lifetime Achievement, Champion of Justice, Public Citizen of the Year, and Student of the Year Awards for 2018.

We need your help to honor individuals and organizations who represent the very best in social work practice and fulfill our profession's mission to enhance human well-being and help meet the basic human needs of all people, with particular attention to the needs and empowerment of people who are vulnerable, oppressed, and living in poverty. Please make note of the category changes this year!

Deadline for nominations: Thursday, November 30, 2017.

Send completed nominations to the NASW-Westchester Awards Committee to: [westchesterawards@naswnys.org](mailto:westchesterawards@naswnys.org)

Please contact Cyndi Carnaghi, LCSW, at: cdcarnaghi@gmail.com or

at (914) 316-5892 with any questions.

Please consider the following criteria in making your nomination:

**2018 Social Work Awards Criteria**

**Social Worker of the Yea**r

The Social Worker of the Year recognizes the commitment and achievements of an outstanding member of our profession. Individuals considered for this award must demonstrate exceptional professional qualities that make them stand out beyond the expectations of their job.

Nominees must:

• Be a member in good standing of NASW-NYS;

• Demonstrate leadership qualities of an exceptional nature;

• Effectively integrate experience with education in an outstanding effort to help people;

• Show a willingness to take risks and advocate for improved human services;

• Contribute to the public’s knowledge and understanding of social work; and

• Exemplify professional social work ethics as defined by the NASW Code of Ethics.

**Lifetime Achievement Award**

The Lifetime Achievement Award honors a social worker who has devoted his or her career to the social work profession and has been exceptional in their service on behalf of people who are vulnerable, oppressed, and/or living in poverty.

In addition to meeting all of the criteria for Social Worker of the Year, Nominees must demonstrate:

• Repeated outstanding achievement in the field of social work;

• Outstanding creativity and courage;

• Contributions with a lasting impact; and

• Recognition beyond the social work profession.

**Champion of Justice Award**

The Champion of Justice Award honors a social worker who has made significant strides working on a prominent social and/or economic justice issue. The individual considered for this award should pursue social change, with and on behalf of vulnerable and oppressed individuals and groups. As part of their efforts, nominees should promote sensitivity to and knowledge about cultural and ethnic diversity while striving to ensure access to needed resources; promoting equality of opportunity; and encouraging meaningful participation in decision making for all people above and beyond the standard commitment.

Nominees must:

• Display a strong and continual commitment to social and/or economic justice;

• Mentor and advocate for and with vulnerable and oppressed individuals and

groups;

• Demonstrate compassion and leadership to eliminate discrimination, oppression, and

injustice;

• Make marked achievements while working towards social and economic justice for

underserved and disadvantaged populations.

**Public Citizen of the Year**

The Public Citizen of the Year Award recognizes a non-social worker who, through business, professional, and/or community activities, best exemplifies the goals and ideals of the social work profession. The individual considered for this award must have made outstanding contributions to health and human services beyond the expectations of their job.

Nominees must:

• Demonstrate leadership and make important contributions to health and human

services;

•  Help improve the quality of life in the community and/or ameliorate a pressing social

problem;

•  Advocate for or take risks on behalf of one or more of social work’s client groups; and

•  Act in concert with the ethics and values of the social work profession.

**Student of the Year Award**

The Social Work Student of the Year award is presented to a Master- and/or Baccalaureate-level social work student who has demonstrated academic excellence and active pursuit of the values, knowledge, and skills of the social work profession as defined by the *NASW Code of Ethics*.

Nominees must:

• Exhibit academic excellence;

• Demonstrate leadership skills and involvement within the University/College or

greater community setting; and

• Engage in work or volunteer commitments that emphasize a strong desire and

capacity to make a difference in the lives of others, through the use of social work

knowledge, skills and abilities; practice, and advocacy.

Current students as well as those who have graduated within six months of the nomination deadline are eligible for this award

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**Deadline for Nominations**: Friday, November 30, 2017

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Awards will be presented at the NASW-Westchester Celebration of Social Work Awards Dinner, March, 2018.



**2018 NASW-Westchester SOCIAL WORK AWARDS**

***NOMINATION FORM***

**Check the award for which your candidate is being nominated:**

□ Social Worker of the Year Award

□ Lifetime Achievement Award

□ Champion of Justice Award

□ Public Citizen of the Year Award

□ Student of the Year Awards

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Nominee**: | | |  | | |
| **Current Position**: | | |  | | |
| **Work Address:** | |  | | | |
| **Office Phone**: |  | | | **Home/Cell Phone**: |  | |
| **Email Address**: | |  | | | | |

**Description of Nominee’s Contributions/Activities:**

Please be sure to describe how the nominee qualifies for the award.

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**Please attach supporting documents including resume, news articles featuring nominee, letters of support, certificates, etc.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Nominator:** | | |  | | | **Email Address**: | |  |
| **Nominator’s Address:** | | | |  | | | | |
| **Office Phone**: | |  | | | **Home/Cell Phone**: | |  | |
| **Signature:** |  | | | | | | | |

**Please submit the nomination form by Thursday, November 30, 2017.**

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**Send completed nominations to:**

**NASW-Westchester Awards Committee via the following email address**

[**westchesterawards@naswnys.org**](mailto:westchesterawards@naswnys.org)