



## 2024 Ohio State Leadership Awards Descriptions

- All applications, nominations, and supporting documents must be submitted by 11:59 pm on Monday, January 29, 2024.
- All letters of recommendation must be submitted by 11:59 pm on Friday, February 2, 2023.
- Note: letters of recommendation can only be submitted **after** the corresponding application has been submitted.

### **INDIVIDUAL AWARDS**

#### **Belonging and Inclusion Impact Award (sponsored by the Center for Belonging and Social Change)**

Sponsored by the Center for Belonging and Social Change, this award recognizes an outstanding student who promotes diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging at Ohio State.

*Students must apply on their own behalf or be nominated by a faculty/staff/student*

**Application Requirements:** Online application

#### **Boehm Holistic Wellness Leadership Award (sponsored by the Student Wellness Center)**

Sponsored by the Student Life Wellness Center, this award recognizes Buckeyes who have promoted holistic wellness through leadership.

*Students may apply on their own behalf or be nominated by a faculty/staff/student*

**Application Requirements:** Online application

#### **Community Engaged Leader Award**

This award is designed to recognize the efforts of students at The Ohio State University who have demonstrated excellent commitment to community engagement and ethical service work. The committee will recognize those students who have demonstrated leadership at the college level and who demonstrate potential for great leadership in community engagement at Ohio State and after graduation. A successful applicant will articulate how their definition of “community engagement” has evolved since beginning college and will have a deep connection to the work of global citizenship. This award is developed in memory of Connor Jones, who was a fierce advocate for Buck-I-SERV Alternative Breaks and community engagement efforts at Ohio State and was deeply committed to the impact that college students can and should have on their community.

*Students may apply on their own behalf or be nominated by a faculty/staff/student*

**Application Requirements:** Online application



**Dean's Leadership Award (sponsored by the Office of the Dean of Students)**

This award is given to students of any class rank connected to at least one department within the Dean of Students area: Ohio Union; Parent and Family Relations; Student Advocacy Center; Student Conduct; Student Activities, Leadership and Community Engagement; Student Life Orientation; and/or Sorority and Fraternity Life. This award recognizes outstanding Buckeyes who exemplify the mission, vision, values, and goals of their department(s) within the Dean of Students area, as well as Ohio State University. Students being recognized who have made positive contributions to Ohio State's campus and be in good academic and behavioral standing with the university.

*Students may apply on their own behalf or be nominated by a faculty/staff/student*

**Application Requirements:** Online application

**Dr. Ellamae Simmons Award**

Born in 1918 in Mount Vernon, Ohio, Dr. Ellamae Simmons dreamed of becoming a physician. Throughout her life she faced racism and sexism. She was initially denied from Ohio State's nursing program because of her race, but nevertheless joined the Red Cross and served in the U.S. Army Nursing Corps for more than three years during World War II. Following the war, she applied again to Ohio State and was accepted to the Biological Sciences program. Dr. Ellamae Simmons went on to earn her Master's in Social Work from Ohio State, and her medical degree from Howard University. This award recognizes students who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and service – particularly with regard to issues at the intersection of race and gender. This award comes with a scholarship award

*Students must apply on their own behalf.*

**Application Requirements:** Online application, resume, recommendation letter

**Kaplan Humanitarian Award**

The Kaplan Humanitarian Award was established April 8, 1960, by Jack S. Resler in honor of Rabbi Kaplan to recognize a student who has been outstanding in campus interfaith or intercultural activities. It is presented to any undergraduate student who reflects an understanding and appreciation of human dignity in their efforts to foster involvement, programming, or education within the University community. The student(s) recognized should have demonstrated significant contribution towards intercultural, international and/or interfaith understanding during his/her time at Ohio State. Applicants must be in good academic standing with at least a 2.5 GPA. This award comes with a scholarship award.

*Students must apply on their own behalf.*

**Application Requirements:** Online application, resume, recommendation letter



### **Outstanding First-Year Student Award**

This award is designed to recognize the early accomplishments of first-year students at The Ohio State University. Any undergraduate, first-year student (no more than one completed semester at the time of application) is eligible for this award. Applicants must be in good academic standing with at least a 2.5 GPA. The period of eligibility includes involvement/experiences from Summer 2023 to present. The committee will recognize those students who have demonstrated leadership at the college level and who demonstrate potential for great leadership at Ohio State. A successful applicant will articulate how their definition of “leadership” has evolved since beginning college, demonstrate involvements that align with personal values, describe responsibilities and accomplishments related to involvement, and illustrate awareness of personal strengths and weaknesses.

*Students may apply on their own behalf or be nominated by faculty/staff/students.*

**Application Requirements:** Online application or nomination, resume, recommendation letter. If you are nominating a student for this award, the letter of recommendation must come from a different faculty/staff member.

### **Outstanding Senior Award**

The Outstanding Senior award is among the highest honors conferred to undergraduate student leaders. This award recognizes less than 1% of graduating seniors who excel in leadership, service, and scholarship throughout their tenure at Ohio State. Applicants must be in good academic standing with at least a 2.5 GPA. Any undergraduate student who graduates in Spring, Summer, or Autumn of 2024 is eligible for this award. A successful applicant will articulate what involvement/service/research/employment/study has made the most significant impact on their life, how they have contributed to a community during their time at Ohio State, what challenges they faced during their time as a college student, and how involvement has influenced their plans after graduation.

*Students must apply on their own behalf for this award.*

**Application Requirements:** Online application, resume, recommendation letter

### **Outstanding Graduate/Professional Student Award**

Among the highest honors conferred to graduate and professional students, this award recognizes those who have made outstanding contributions in leadership and service outside their academic program. Students should also have demonstrated the ability to balance scholarship with their leadership and involvement. Eligibility includes graduate and professional students who are currently enrolled in an academic graduate or professional program. Applicants must be in good academic standing with a 3.00 GPA or equivalent. A successful applicant will articulate what they have learned about “leadership” that positions you to be a leader within your community or professional field – and how you have made a significant contribution to a community during your time as a graduate/professional student.

*Students may apply on their own behalf or be nominated by a faculty/staff/students.*

**Application Requirements:** Online application, resume, recommendation letter. If you are nominating a student for this award, the letter of recommendation must come from a different faculty/staff member.



**Outstanding Green Buckeye Award (sponsored by Student Life Sustainability)**

Sponsored by Student Life Sustainability, this award is presented to an individual student who has shown leadership in furthering sustainability efforts on campus.

*Students may apply on their own behalf or be nominated by a faculty/staff/students.*

**Application Requirements:** Online application

**Phyllis Bailey Inclusion Award (sponsored by Recreational Sports)**

Phyllis Bailey (1926-2022) is known for promoting inclusivity within Ohio State campus recreation and athletics. Within her 39 years of service at the university, she advanced female student-athlete participation, impacting women student athletes nationwide. Sponsored by Student Life Recreational Sports, the Phyllis Bailey Inclusion Award recognizes an individual student who has demonstrated active inclusion within their involvement at The Ohio State University. In line with Bailey's legacy, applicants should be able to describe how they utilize their leadership on campus to create inclusive spaces for students of all identities to interact and engage with. Multiple avenues exist for this, such as campus organizations, programs and events, campus recreation, and/or wellness initiatives.

*Students may apply on their own behalf or be nominated by faculty/staff/students.*

**Application Requirements:** Online application, resume, recommendation letter. If you are nominating a student for this award, the letter of recommendation must come from a different faculty/staff member.

**Stanley D. Gottsegen Leadership Award**

The Stanley D. Gottsegen Leadership Award recognizes one student leader annually who has demonstrated outstanding involvement in co-curricular activities with a scholarship award. Students must be current undergraduate juniors or seniors involved in one of the following organizations: Undergraduate Student Government, Ohio Union Activities Board, Greek Governing Councils, Makio, or Ohio Staters, Inc. Students must apply on their own behalf.

*Students must apply on their own behalf.*

**Application Requirements:** Online application, resume, in-person interview (letter of recommendation not required. Interviews will be scheduled with finalists after an initial review of applications)

**Willie J. Young, Sr. Staff Impact Award (sponsored by Willie J. Young Sr. Off-Campus and Commuter Student Engagement)**

This award will focus on professionals whose commitment to a student or group of students exemplifies what it means to care for, mentor and support students in the face of adversity. This award is in memory of Willie J. Young Sr., who took care of students and colleagues alike with care and without judgement. Winners of this award will embody those values in how they support students.

*Staff can apply on their own behalf or be nominated by faculty/staff/students*

**Application Requirements:** Online application



**Willie J. Young, Sr. Student Impact Award (sponsored by Willie J. Young Sr. Off-Campus and Commuter Student Engagement)**

This award will focus on students who have had a positive impact on their off-campus community. This award is in memory of Willie J. Young, Sr., who exemplified what it means to engage and support those in our community with care and without judgement. Winners of this award will embody these values in how they positively impact their off-campus community.

*Students can apply on their own behalf or be nominated by faculty/staff/students*

**Application Requirements:** Online application



## STUDENT ORGANIZATION AWARDS -----

**Application Requirements:** Online application form completed by a member of the organization or a peer. Organizations must be Active or Pending with Student Activities to be eligible to win an award.

### **Boehm Holistic Wellness Leadership Award (Sponsored by the Student Wellness Center)**

Sponsored by the Student Life Wellness Center, this award recognizes student organizations who have promoted holistic wellness through leadership.

### **Outstanding Student Organization Awards (sponsored by Ohio Union and Student Activities)**

Ohio State believes in the value of student organizations and their impact on the students involved. Student organizations provide a niche for students at a large university and a means to develop leadership while serving a broader cause. These awards recognize student organizations that make extraordinary contributions to campus and their members across the different outcomes identified in the Student Organization Success Framework. The Framework identifies ways in which organizations can achieve success in Finances, Operations, Relationships, and Membership. An outstanding organization will find success across all of these domains. They have demonstrated the values of collaboration and conflict resolution. We recognize that the achievements of established student organizations and new student organizations differ, yet both contribute to overall campus involvement. Therefore, this award is granted in two categories. Organizations may only apply for one category:

- **Outstanding Overall Student Organization:** any organization registered with the Ohio Union prior to January 1, 2023.
- **Outstanding New Student Organization:** any organization that registered with the Ohio Union for the first time or re-registered a previously existing group after two or more years of inactivity, on or after January 1, 2023.



**Student Organization Excellence Awards (sponsored by Ohio Union and Student Activities)**

The success of student organization programming contributes to helping students Engage, Learn, and Thrive. The excellence awards are designed to recognize student organizations whose work over the past year demonstrates notable accomplishments in Finances, Operations, Relationships, and Membership, the four domains within the Student Organization Framework. Applications should demonstrate examples of work in the category on or after January 1, 2023 that have taken place by the time the application is submitted. Applications should not be submitted for future programs/plans.

- **Finances:** Student organizations are expected to be financially self-sustaining which includes the generating and spending of funds, establishing fiscal policies and procedures, and using financial resources ethically in ways that are aligned with the organizations purpose and goals. Demonstrated excellence in finances and financial management can take many forms including but not limited to creating and maintaining operation and programming budgets, establishing financial procedures, roles and accountability, maintaining accurate records, generating funds to meet organizations goals, and utilizing university funding resources. The application should explain how the selected activity demonstrates the organization’s creative approaches to managing their finances effectively.
- **Operations:** An organization's operations are the structures and procedures that allow the organization to function efficiently. Demonstrated excellence in organization operations can take a variety of forms, including but not limited to establishing officer reporting lines and role responsibilities, managing communications methods, accounts, and content, monitoring constitution and governance process, engaging in strategic planning and goal setting, initiating leadership transitions and having a transition plan, coordinating meeting and activities for the organization, keeping accurate organization records, and complying with university policy. The application should explain how the selected activity demonstrates the organization’s structures and processes to manage their overall operational effectiveness.
- **Relationships:** Student organizations have an opportunity and obligation to connect with others, whether that be other organizations, our campus, or broader communities. Demonstrated excellence in relationships can take many forms including but not limited to engaging with external stakeholder (other organizations, campus departments, local community members), building and maintaining relationships and engagement with organizations alumni, identifying purposeful partners and building long-lasting partnerships, exploring and appreciating diversity in backgrounds and perspectives, engaging in partnership with an inclusive and open mindset, community building with others, sharing organization information with other through intentional marketing and community outreach, and contributing positively to the overarching Ohio State campus culture. The application should explain how the selected activity fosters engagement and contributes to communities larger than themselves.
- **Membership:** Student organizations are expected to provide positive experiences to the members from start to finish. Demonstrated excellence within Membership can take a variety of forms including but not limited to the intentional recruiting and onboarding of new membership, investment in member retention, engaging in leadership development for members, investing in members wellness and safety, celebrating and valuing individual differences, hosting intentional meetings and activities, participating in philanthropy and service opportunities, and recognizing members for their individual success and engagement with the organization. The application should explain how the selected activity has created opportunities for their members to learn about their own strengths and abilities, gain confidence, and build a sense of community.





**Outstanding Student Organization Program (sponsored by Ohio Union and Student Activities)**

Ohio State student organizations host thousands of events throughout the academic year, contributing not only to the experience of their own members, but that campus community. Outstanding programs should promote the mission of the organization, meaningfully involve members in the planning and execution of the event and make a lasting impact on membership and/or the campus community. This award recognizes outstanding student programs held on campus since January 1, 2023. This award is granted in two categories. Programs may only be submitted for one category:

- **Outstanding Student Organization Program:** A program planned solely by the organization submitting the award.
- **Outstanding Collaborative Student Organization Program:** A program planned in collaboration with multiple organizations or offices. *At least one of the collaborators must be an active student organization*, but other collaborators can be on-campus or off-campus offices, non-profit organizations, or other groups connected to the mission of the program. *Only one organization needs to submit the application on behalf of the program.*

**Belonging and Social Change Engagement in Programming Award (Sponsored by the Center for Belonging and Social Change)**

Sponsored by the Center for Belonging and Social Change, this award recognizes an outstanding program put on by an organization that promotes diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging at Ohio State.

**Outstanding Green Buckeyes – Sustainable Student Organization Award (Sponsored by Student Life Sustainability)**

Sponsored by Student Life Sustainability, this award is presented to a registered student organization who has shown leadership in furthering sustainability efforts on campus. Student organizations may apply on their own behalf or be nominated by faculty/staff/students/other student organizations.





## **NOMINATION-BASED AWARDS** -----

**Nomination Requirements:** Online nomination form completed by a University faculty member, staff member, or current student on behalf of another. Self-nominations are not accepted in this category.

### **Outstanding Mentorship Award (sponsored by Buckeye Leadership Fellows)**

Buckeye Leadership Fellows foundationally believes in the impact it makes through leadership and helping others. We work to build communities and mentorship opportunities for those around us, to be stronger together. This award recognizes individuals who go above and beyond to foster mentorship for those in their lives. This individual embodies leadership, empathy, and embraces taking the path less traveled. They go above and beyond in their duties and help create personal and professional development opportunities for those on campus. To recognize that our Buckeye Nation extends beyond the university, this award is presented in two categories

- **Faculty/Staff Mentor:** Individuals nominated in this category should be faculty or staff at the university
- **External Mentor:** Individuals nominated in this category should have roles outside of the university but be nominated for their work in supporting a current Ohio State student

### **Outstanding SEE Student Employee Award (sponsored by Buckeye Careers)**

On-campus student employment is one of many ways for students to get involved and build leadership skills. This award recognizes the contributions of student employees in Student Life offices. Any undergraduate, graduate, or professional student employed within Student Life is eligible to receive this award. Assistantship appointments are not eligible for this award.

### **Outstanding SEE Supervisor Award (sponsored by Buckeye Careers)**

This award recognizes Student Life supervisors who strive to create an enriching and impactful experience for their students. They go above and beyond in their duties as supervisors and help create personal and professional development opportunities for their employees.



**Student Organization Individual Contribution Awards (sponsored by Student Activities)**

This award recognizes those students, faculty, and staff who have made extraordinary contributions to a student organization through their involvement, leadership, and dedication to the organization and its mission. Recognizing that organizational success requires individual contribution in a variety of formats and at all levels, this award is presented in four different categories:

- **New Member:** A student who joined the organization on or after January 1, 2021. This member has demonstrated commitment and leadership in their first year as a member.
- **Emerging Leader:** An outstanding general member is a student who may not hold a formal title/position of leadership within the organization, but whose actions/attitude/mentorship/ideas/etc. have been instrumental to the organization's success. This is a student who goes above and beyond their duties as a general member and performs exemplary work that may not be otherwise recognized. Students who are nominated for this award should not be eligible for Positional Leader and should not serve on the executive board of the student organization.
- **Positional Leader:** A student who holds a formal title/position of leadership within the organization, (example: an active member who has been elected or appointed to a leadership role such as vice president, treasurer, or committee chairperson.) This is a leader who has empowered and developed their members and has demonstrated leadership in their role.
- **Advisor:** University faculty and staff members who advise a registered student organization. Additional consideration will be given to nominees for whom advising a student organization is not part of their job responsibilities. [Please note: staff members and graduate associates are not eligible for this award if a) they advise this organization as a part of their job responsibilities and/or b) they are directly involved in the planning or judging of Leadership Awards.] This advisor has gone above and beyond in their duties as an advisor and helped to facilitate growth and development in their members.

**All award applications and recommendation forms are available online at [go.osu.edu/leadershipawards](https://go.osu.edu/leadershipawards)**