

STUDENT ACTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD 2008

The OSSTF Student Action on Human Rights Award was established in 2004 to recognize and honour students who are engaged in non-violent efforts to overcome human rights injustices and whose advocacy for human rights is organized, positive and effective.

Presented annually to a student or group of students, the award reflects District 12 OSSTF's belief in the power of student action to make a difference in the struggle for human rights, equity, and social justice both locally and globally.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Nominations are open to any secondary school student or group of students of the Toronto District School Board who have (in any or all of the following):

- worked to directly address human rights or equity issues in the school, the local community, or beyond
- advocated for the human or equity rights of an individual or group
- worked to bring groups in conflict together for resolution
- inspired others toward involvement in human rights & social justice

The selection of the successful applicant(s) will be based on:

- the scope of the human rights and/or equity activities
- the length of time involved in those activities
- the impact on the life of an individual, the school, or community
- the obstacles overcome to be successful
- the level of commitment and the sustainability of the action as illustrated in the nomination package

NOMINATION PROCESS

Nominators complete the nomination form and send it to the District 12 office, attention the Human Rights Committee. Nomination forms must be accompanied by at least one letter of reference from a staff member at the nominee's school (usually, the nominator), a personal statement from the nominee on his or her engagement with human rights, and supporting documentation. Nomination forms will be available in hard copy and posted on-line. **THE DEADLINE IS: APRIL 18, 2008.**

For more information, contact Roger Langen, Executive Liaison, District 12 HRC at: rlangen@osstfd12.com.

Student Action on Human Rights Award **NOMINATION FORM 2008**

NAME OF NOMINEE (student or group)

NOMINATOR

SCHOOL

CONTACT INFORMATION (school/home phone and/or e-mail)

Please attach also

1. A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This letter must be written by a Staff member at the nominee's school (typically the nominator). It will offer a clear description of how the nominee's human rights activity meets the selection criteria. Specific names, dates, and places, including the names of supporting organizations or individuals, should also be included.

2. A PERSONAL STATEMENT BY THE NOMINEE

The nominee will write a brief statement to the committee (about 300 words) explaining or otherwise giving insight into the nominee's engagement with a specific human rights activity or with human rights in general.

3. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

To ensure a full and fair assessment, it may be appropriate for an application to be supported by a second letter of recommendation (e.g. for off-site activities) or by other information or materials, as clippings, photographs, project samples. Please limit supporting documentation to a maximum of *5 pages text* and *5 pages display material* (or their alternative media equivalents).

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THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS: APRIL 18, 2008. The committee reserves the right to consider late applications up to and including May 2, 2008.

Please deliver all complete applications by mail, board courier, or in person to:

Andrew Zarebski, Chair, D12 Human Rights Committee
1482 Bathurst Street, Suite 300
Toronto ON M5P 3H1

NOTE: ELECTRONIC OR FAXED APPLICATIONS WILL **NOT** BE ACCEPTED.

Please note also

The nomination form and all attachments become the property of the Human Rights Committee, District 12. Do not send original documents or precious items as these may not be returned; photocopies or reproductions will suffice. The selection committee reserves the right to contact the applicant and/or his or her references to investigate any aspect of the application.

The committee will make its recommendations at the May 21 meeting of the District 12 HRC. The winning applicant will be advised the week of June 2, 2008.

RECOGNITION

The 2008 winner of the District 12 OSSTF Student Action on Human Rights Award will be announced at the District Executive and STBU Council meetings in June. The celebration of the award will take place on June 18, 2008 at the year-end dinner of the D12 Human Rights Committee (restaurant to be announced).

At the dinner, each winner and runner-up will be presented with a certificate recognizing their special achievement. The winner will also receive a cheque for not less than \$200.00. The winner of the D12 OSSTF Camille Natale Peace & Social Justice Award will also be recognized and celebrated at the dinner.

The celebratory dinner hosts all student award winners as *guests of honour* to share their success with family members, school representatives, members of the D12 Human Rights Committee and Executive, and other special guests who have made a contribution to human rights and education for the year 2007-2008.

For more information

Contact Roger Langen, Executive Liaison, District 12 Human Rights Committee at: 416 393-8900 ext. 237; rlangen@osstfd12.com.