



National Youth Worker of the Year Awards 2015

**CATEGORIES AND GUIDANCE
NOTES FOR NOMINATORS**

THE AWARDS

YouthLink Scotland is delighted to announce the eighth National Youth Worker of the Year Awards.

The awards will celebrate and recognise the outstanding commitment, service and performance of youth workers, role models, partners and managers who work tirelessly within the youth work sector.

This year there are 10 individual categories and an overall winner who will be chosen from the category winners.

Youth Worker of the Year Categories

- Full-time or Full-time equivalent
- Part-time/Sessional paid
- Volunteer
- Innovative Practice team
- Uniformed
- Intergenerational
- Role Model/Mentor
- Manager
- Agencies and Partners
- Life-time Achievement
- Overall Youth Worker of the Year

ELIGIBILITY

- Please read the category eligibility carefully.
- A nominee can be nominated in more than one category but a separate nomination form needs to be submitted for each category.
- The awards are open to private, voluntary and charitable organisations and public sector bodies.
- The work should have taken place in Scotland.

TIMETABLE

- Closing date is Thursday 18 December 2014.
- Judging panel will meet at the end of January 2015.
- Nominators will be informed of short list during the first week in February 2015.
- Filming of nominators will take place mid February 2015.
- Award dinner will take place on Thursday 12 March 2015.

THE CATEGORIES

Full-time or Full-time Equivalent

This award will go to a youth worker who has demonstrated consistent skill, knowledge and experience in the field of youth work on a full-time basis. Their contribution to a specific location (locally or nationally) or a theme should be evident and innovative. They will be respected by the young people, their peers, managers and partners for their ongoing enthusiasm and commitment in youth work.

Nominations may be submitted by; young people, practitoners, managers or partnership agency working in the field of youth work.

development through youth work. The recipient will be someone who has given exceptional service to the organisation and its young people. They will be well respected by young people, fellow volunteers and their organisation. They can be someone involved at any level within the organisation but should have at some point worked face-to-face with young people and fellow volunteers within their organisation.

Nominations may be submitted by; organisation staff, office bearers, fellow volunteers or young people with whom the nominee serves.

Innovative Practice - Team of the Year

This award recognises the work of a team using imagination, initiative and drive within a partnership context. The work could be within a variety of settings and should relate to one or more of the government's priorities.

Nominations may be submitted by; a line manager or manager of a partnership agency.

Part-time/Sessional Paid

The award will recognise the commitment made by a youth worker who is employed on a part-time or sessional basis. They should have demonstrated commitment to the personal and social development of young people by creating imaginative learning opportunities for them to broaden their horizons. They should have embraced opportunities to expand their skills and knowledge enabling them to continue to grow and develop.

Nominations may be submitted by; line managers, colleagues or young people with whom the nominee works.

Volunteer of the Year

This award recognises the overall commitment of the volunteer to the cause of improving young people's personal

THE CATEGORIES

Youth Worker of the Year (Uniformed Organisations)

This award will go to an adult volunteer from one of the uniformed organisations in Scotland. They will have demonstrated that their volunteering is of the highest standard and has made a real impact on the young people they have worked with. They will have shown that they have used creative and innovative approaches to deliver opportunities for young people. We will need to know how they became involved in volunteering, their experience and aspirations for the future.

Nominations may be submitted by; organisations or individuals.

Youth Worker of the Year (Intergenerational)

This award will go to an individual or group whose work has consistently demonstrated that they have used creative and innovative approaches to bring young people and other generations together to share their skills/ experience and to work to improve community cohesion in the area in which they live.

Nominations may be submitted by; organisations or individuals from voluntary uniformed organisations.

Role Model/Mentor of the Year

This award will highlight the implementation of the Anti-Social Behaviour Review recommendation on countering negative stereotypes and promoting positive role models.

It contributes to Outcome 9 of the National Performance Framework: We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger and Outcome 11: We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others. The winner of this award will be someone who, through their personality, positive attitude or achievements inspires young people to raise their aspirations, believe in themselves and make the most of their lives.

Nominations should be submitted by; organisation staff who support the role model/mentoring process within their organisation or young people who have received support from a role model/ mentor.

Youth Work Manager of the Year

This award will go to a manager within either a voluntary youth work organisation or local authority. They should have a clear senior management role within the setting where they work and will have demonstrated outstanding vision, leadership and partnership working. They should have experience in recruiting, training and sustaining paid and voluntary staff. They will have demonstrated their ability to effect and manage change and be involved in policy development.

Nominations should be submitted by; a member of the nominee's team. If a whole team has made a nomination, a lead nominator has to be identified.

THE CATEGORIES

Agencies and Partner Organisations (Worker of the Year)

This award will go to a member of a partner agency or organisation who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to using youth work methods in their work with young people. The recipient could be drawn from a wide range of agencies and organisations including; health, community safety, regeneration, community planning, youth justice, employment services, education, housing or social enterprise.

Nominations may be submitted by; a practitioner or manager from the youth work sector.

Lifetime Achievement Award (Fellowship of YouthLink Scotland)

This award will recognise long-term commitment and outstanding achievement within the field of youth work. The successful nominee(s) will have conferred upon them an Honorary Life Fellowship and membership of YouthLink Scotland. The successful candidate can be someone with a local, regional or national profile.

Nominations may be submitted by; organisations or individuals from the field of youth work.

Overall Winner

This award will come from the winners of each category and will be announced on the evening of the awards.

GUIDANCE NOTES FOR NOMINATORS AND MANAGERS

- It is important that your nomination is clear and concise and demonstrates why your nominee should win the chosen category.
- The information given in the form will be used by the judging panel to decide the finalists.
- Entries should adhere to the word limit in each section of the nomination form.
- Please attach a high resolution photograph of the nominee which will be used for the dinner programme.
- Photography demonstrating the nominees work is also useful for publicity purposes.
- Please attach any materials you feel supports your nomination. Quality is more important than quantity.
- Information and photographs may be used by YouthLink Scotland for publicity purposes please make sure you have ticked the permission boxes on the nomination form.
- It is important that the information about the nominator and nominee is accurate.
- Make sure that the young person's supporting statement is in place in all categories except Manager and Life-time Achiever.
- All contact will be done through the nominators unless otherwise agreed.

THE AWARDS EVENING

- All finalists and nominators will receive an invite to attend the dinner as the guests of our sponsors.
- This is an adult event no children will be allowed to come as guests.
- Special rates will be on offer.

For more information contact:

Susan Symington
ssymington@youthlinkscotland.org
or Tel: 0131 313 2488

YOUTHLINK SCOTLAND



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland



Generations
Working
Together



YouthLink Scotland

Rosebery House, 9 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5EZ

T: 0131 313 2488 E: info@youthlinkscotland.org W: www.youthlinkscotland.org

YouthLink Scotland is a company limited by guarantee. Registered in Scotland No: 164547 Charity Ref: SC003923