



Community-Engaged Alliance

Richard J. Wood Student Community Commitment Award

Funded by Michael and Betsy Wood on behalf of the Richard J. Wood Family, the Wood Student Community Commitment Award was created in 1996 in honor of Dr. Richard J. Wood, who served as the founding chairperson of Indiana Campus Compact's, now Community-Engaged Alliance, Board of Presidents from 1992 to 1996. This award honors students who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to community engagement and continues Dr. Wood's legacy as an advocate of students as stewards to the community.

Learn more about Dr. Richard J. Wood and past recipients of this award on the Community-Engaged Alliance website at <https://communityengagedalliance.org/awards/>.

Eligibility

To receive this competitive award, nominees must be an undergraduate, graduate, or pre-professional student with at least 6-months remaining prior to graduation as of April. Recipients must be enrolled at a Community-Engaged Alliance partner institution.

Timeline

- Nominations Due: December 31, 2022
- Peer-Review: January 16 – February 16, 2023
- Recipient Announced: April 21, 2023, at the 2023 Summit & Research Symposium
- Awardee Engagement: June 2023 through April 2024



Nomination Process

All nominations/self-nominations must be submitted electronically via the Awards Nomination Portal, accessible from the link on the Community-Engaged Alliance Awards webpage at <https://communityengagedalliance.org/awards/> or by scanning the QR code above. Application materials must be saved as PDF documents in the following manner:

- a single Application Packet that includes the Personal Statement, Evidence of Community Engagement, and Letters of Nomination
- a single Nominee Information Packet that includes the Brief Biography and Highlight of Accomplishments
- a high-resolution Professional Headshot saved as either a .jpg or .png file

Nomination Requirements

Application Packet—*Ensure that all required components are addressed and that the packet is saved as a single PDF file.*

- Nomination Form (required, preview available in Appendix A)
- Personal Statement (required, 1,000 words)
 - Discuss your (the nominee's) understanding of community engagement and how your (their) efforts engage and influence others to work *in* and *with* local communities (e.g., community organizations, local communities, community members) to bring about positive social change.
 - Discuss how your (their) involvement in community engagement has/will influence your (their) future civic leadership.
 - Discuss your (their) commitment to addressing community-identified issues and how your (their) partnerships with local community partners have brought about social change.
- Evidence of Community Engagement
 - Community-Engaged Teaching (required)
Provide a summary of the key knowledge and insights you (they) have gained from service-learning courses,

- community engagement programs, community-based work, and/or alternative break/immersion experiences.
- Community Partner Engagement (required)
 - Provide a brief overview of your (their) engagement with community partners/local community, including how you (they) are/have been involved, dates of involvement, and any professional service provided.
- Other Community Engagement (required)
 - Provide a brief overview of any other community engagement activities you (they) lead, participate in, and/or support. This can include but is not limited to professional development activities, student organizations, and work in and with community organizations and/or community members.
- Engaged Scholarship (if applicable)
 - List all community-engaged scholarly works produced (both peer-reviewed and invited), including but not limited to articles, manuscripts, conference presentations, research briefs, white papers, and other creative works. Scholarly works produced as a result of Community-Engaged Alliance funding should be noted, and links to online sources are to be included where applicable.
- Community-Engaged Research (if applicable)
 - Briefly discuss your (their) community-engaged research interests. If applicable, provide a list and overview (2 to 3 sentences each) of your (their) completed and in-process community-engaged research projects.
- Letters of Nomination/Recommendation (2 total)
 - 1 Letter from a faculty member, professional staff, and/or advisor who has seen, first-hand, the scope of the student's commitment.
 - 1 Letter from a community partner/member.

Nominee Information Packet— *All components are required. Save all items, except for the headshot, as a single PDF file.*

- Biography (300 words)
- Highlight of Accomplishments (150 words); *to be used should the nominee receive the award.*
- Professional Headshot (high-resolution, .jpeg, .jpg, or .png)

Review Criteria

Nominees are reviewed based on the following criteria:

- Articulation of their understanding of community engagement and how community engagement has been integrated throughout their curricular and co-curricular experiences.
- Evidence of their development as a civic-minded leader, and their ability to foster civic growth and development among their peers.
- Evidence of how their community-engaged learning has led to leadership and advocacy for social change.
- Evidence of their commitment and determination to authentic, collaborative work that will bring about positive social change.

Award Recipient Engagement

Community-Engaged Alliance will highlight the work and engage the award recipient in the following ways (June to April):

- Announced at the 2023 Summit & Research Symposium. All nominees are asked to attend.
- Showcase award recipients in the following ways:
 - Present and/or serve as a facilitator/moderator during the 2024 Summit & Research Symposium
 - Serve as a mentor for 2023–2024 Emerging Leaders (faculty, staff, and/or students) by presenting their research and/or program models via webinar and expert lecture sessions.
 - Serve on the Richard J. Wood Student Community Commitment Award review committee the following year.

Award Materials

Award winners will be presented with an award plaque and a \$500 cash gift. This cash gift is payable after the recipient's w-9 is received. Recipient's may choose to have their payment directed to an Indian nonprofit organization.

View highlights of previous recipients and learn more about the Richard J. Wood Student Community Commitment Award at <https://communityengagedalliance.org/awards/>.