**Birmingham Volunteer Awards 2017 Nomination Criteria**

The Guild of Students uses the Birmingham Volunteer Awards as a prestigious mark of excellence to celebrate and reward the outstanding achievements of student volunteers at The University of Birmingham.

This year the Birmingham Volunteer Awards will be presented on the 12th June 2017 in a joint ceremony with the Careers and Employability Centre, Personal Skills Award and the Jobs, Skills and Volunteering department.

**Eligibility**

The awards are available to groups of volunteers, or individual students who volunteer through the various roles within the Guild and within the external organisations that are registered with JSV. For example:

* Society/Volunteer Project/Sports Committee Members
* Volunteer Projects
* External Volunteers
* Residents Associations
* Non-sabbatical Officers
* General Sport/Project Volunteers

**Completing the Nomination Form**

Anyone, apart from persons on the judging panel, can submit a nomination. If you would like to nominate an individual or group, please complete the nomination form which is available electronically from [www.guildofstudents.com](http://www.guildofstudents.com) or you can request a copy from volunteering@guild.bham.ac.uk.

All applications should give a good level of detail as standard; assume the judges have no knowledge of the student group or individual who is nominated. Each award has three key criteria they are judged on (outlined below).

**Hints and tips for completing the form:**

* Please ensure that you put the evidence for the criteria in the correct box on the nomination form.
* Give explanations, evidence, quotes, facts or figures to support points and opinions.
* Clearly explain the impact of the volunteer(s) achievements.
* Get someone else to read the form and ask for feedback before you submit it.
* Keep within the word limit.

**Submitting a Nomination Form**

Forms can be printed and returned to Jobs, Skills and Volunteering or emailed to volunteering@guild.bham.ac.uk. If a nomination form has been incorrectly completed it will be rejected. As we won’t be checking forms until after the closing date, we will be unable to notify people of rejected forms, therefore it is essential that you follow the instructions and ask a JSV member of staff if you are in doubt about anything.

**Closing Date**

The closing date for entries is 15th May 2017.

**Judging**

The nomination forms will be read by a panel of judges who will decide, based on the details given in the forms, on the winners for each award.

**Awards Ceremony**

The winners will be announced by 24th May and be asked to attend an awards ceremony on 12th June 2017.

**The Awards**

**Leadership**

Students who excel in leadership may have run their own volunteering project or taken a lead on a committee/group or other volunteering events. These students will have been responsible for guiding other students as well as being a team player and volunteering themselves.

The nomination must demonstrate:

1. Evidence of the achievements and the impact they have had on other volunteers, students and/or community.
2. Evidence of innovative and effective communication with others in the project, community, Guild or University.
3. Evidence of effective and prompt resolution of issues when leading group/activities.

**Dedication**

This is an opportunity to reward the most committed and hard-working of volunteers who may not be at the forefront of running projects but can be relied on continually. Being an inspiration to other volunteers, these students show loyalty and passion towards their volunteering.

The nomination must demonstrate:

1. Evidence of achievements and outcomes as a result of the volunteering of the individual/group.
2. Evidence of the impact and benefit they have had on other volunteers, students and/or community.
3. Evidence of benefit to the Guild and University (i.e. improved reputation, raising profile etc.)

**Achievement**

Awards for achievement in volunteering can vary from person to person. It may reflect an achievement in relation to a project, for example creating a new project or recruiting more volunteers. Alternatively the achievement may be on a personal level for a volunteer, perhaps overcoming a significant personal barrier or developing a new skill.

The nomination must demonstrate:

1. Evidence of the achievements and the impact they have had on other volunteers, students and/or community or themselves
2. Evidence of the skills and experience that have been developed through individual/groups achievement
3. Evidence of the benefit to the Guild and University (i.e. improved reputation, raising profile etc.)

**Community Impact**

This award is available to any volunteer, departments, community organisations or student groups that have had a significant impact on the community.

The nomination must demonstrate:

1. Evidence of how the volunteer provider, volunteer or student group has had a significant impact on the local community
2. Evidence of excellence in promoting and supporting the ethos of local community impact
3. Evidence of creating ties between the local community and campus- this could be by providing opportunities for students, raising awareness about an issue in the local community or bringing people together in the community

**Global Impact**

This is our newest award, rewarding those who have made an impact on a global scale, whether it is fundraising for organisations abroad or bringing communities together.

The nomination must demonstrate:

1. Evidence of how the group or individual  has made a significant impact on volunteering projects abroad or have brought cultures together in Birmingham
2. Evidence of excellence in promoting and supporting the ethos of global impact
3. Evidence of developing the global community on campus- this could be either on campus, in halls or connecting the university with the surrounding community. This could be through bringing together students from different cultures and countries, encouraging global citizenship, adding a global dimension to classes or extra-curricular activities,