



2017 Application

Due: February 17, 2017

About Celebrate Youth!

Celebrate Youth! was created to recognize young people in our community who keep doing the right things, even when it is hard—staying in school, taking on extra responsibilities at home, encouraging their peers or making good choices even when they are unpopular. These aren't necessarily the kids with the highest GPA or award winning athletes or performers. These are young people who have lots of reasons to give up, but don't.

You know these young people—they are in your schools, neighborhoods, churches or workplaces. We want to recognize them for their remarkable “everyday” accomplishments. You can help us celebrate by nominating a youth that you know (young people can nominate themselves as well by asking an adult to complete the Asset Builder questions!).

Youth can be nominated for up to three of the five categories. A Youth of the Year will be selected from the entire pool of applicants. Winners in each of the five categories will receive a \$1,000 cash prize! The award for the Youth of the Year is \$2,000. These cash awards are made possible by generous community groups who recognize the importance of celebrating young people and their accomplishments.

The “Celebrate Youth!” Creative Self-Expression Award

This young person has demonstrated exceptional commitment in an artistic endeavor or other method of self-expression. This might take the form of the fine arts (such as painting, drawing, sculpture), performing arts (such as dance, theater, music), creative writing, film-making, web design, or any other creative undertaking. This young person's creative activities contribute to his/her positive sense of self, purpose, and perspective on the future.

1. Tell us about the ways you creatively self-express. Do you paint, sculpt, play an instrument, write poetry, dance or some other form?
2. Why is your “art” important to you?
3. Describe a situation or circumstance that you have faced that was challenging.
4. How did this impact/affect/influence your art?
5. How did your “art” help you cope with this situation/circumstances?
6. What impact has your “art” had on your life?
7. Tell us about your family.
8. Tell us about your school experience.

The Charles Mikels' Citizenship Through Service Award

This young person has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to serving his/her community. By providing service to others (individuals, organizations, charities, causes, etc.), this individual is an example of how young people are valuable resources in the community. Through his/her volunteerism and leadership, this young person demonstrates positive values such as caring, integrity, responsibility, and equality and social justice.

1. Tell us about the ways you give back to your community. Do you volunteer, help neighbors etc.
2. Why are citizenship and service important to you?
3. Describe a situation or circumstance that you have faced that was challenging.
4. How did this impact you?
5. How did citizenship and service help you cope with this situation/circumstance?
6. What impact has giving back to your community had on your life?
7. Tell us about your family.
8. Tell us about your school experience.
9. Is there anything else you want the committee to know?



Facebook: [BauerFamilyResources](#)
Instagram: [@bauer.family.resources](#)
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The “Celebrate Youth!” Sportsmanship Award

This young person has demonstrated high ideals of sportsmanship in the context of his/her athletic activities. In both practice and competition, this individual is an example of integrity, responsibility, and high expectations. Through relationships with coaches, teammates, and competitors, this young person demonstrates how positive character can be developed and exhibited through athletic pursuits.

1. Tell us about the sport(s) you participate in.
2. Why is it important to you to participate in sport(s)?
3. Describe a situation or circumstance that you have faced that was challenging.
4. How did this impact/affect/influence your sportsmanship?
5. How did your participation in sports help you cope with this situation/circumstances?
6. What impact has your sport had on your life?
7. Tell us about your family.
8. Tell us about your school experience.
9. Is there anything else you want the committee to know?

The “Celebrate Youth!” Commitment to Learning Award

A student with a Commitment to Learning isn't necessarily a 4.0 GPA Honor Roll Student. Rather, this young person demonstrates a desire and willingness to pursue education despite barriers or other difficult circumstances. This can be evident by this young person's active engagement in courses, projects, and other educational pursuits to attain success. This young person might also help foster a love for learning in others.

1. Tell us about your commitment to learning.
2. Why is learning and/or school important to you?
3. Describe a situation or circumstance that you have faced that was challenging.
4. How did this impact/affect/influence your learning?
5. How did your commitment to learning help you cope with this situation/circumstances?
6. What impact has learning had on your life?
7. Tell us about your family.
8. Tell us about your school experience.
9. Is there anything else you want the committee to know?

The “Celebrate Youth!” Bouncing Back Award

This young person has demonstrated resilience in the face of difficult obstacles. This individual has experienced one or more substantial obstacles which were a source of stress or risk in his/her life. Using a variety of skills (planning & decision making, interpersonal skills, resistance skills, conflict resolution, etc.), this young person has “bounced back” by coping with life's challenges.

1. Describe a situation or circumstance that you have faced that was challenging.
2. How did you overcome or “bounce back” from this situation or circumstance?
3. How has overcoming this situation or circumstance impacted your life today?
4. What did you learn from this experience? How will what you learned help you in the future?
5. Tell us about your family.
6. Tell us about your school experience.
7. Is there anything else you want the committee to know?

Tips for Completing Your Application

1. Answer every question. If a question has multiple parts, make sure you address each point separately and clearly.
2. Your answers do not have to be long. They do, however, need to be clear. Your answers are the only things the reviewers will have to consider as they make their decisions.
3. There are no extra points given for applications that are lengthy.
4. These questions are designed to help us get to know you! When writing your responses, remember that the committee knows nothing about you and knows only what you tell them.
5. Read your responses as if you don't know who the applicant is and ask yourself if the responses are clear and convey what you want them to convey. It's always helpful to have other people review your answers as well! A second or third set of eyes can be very beneficial.

Asset Builder Questions (Adult Questions)

This section is to be completed by an adult who knows the applicant personally and can attest to why they are so deserving of this award. Responses need to be typed and double-spaced with no more than 500 words per response. All questions need to be answered. Please be clear in your responses and provide as much information as possible.

1. How do you know the nominee?
2. Why do you feel the young person should be recognized with this award?
3. How is the applicant viewed as a role model to others?
4. How does the applicant reflect the spirit and intent of these awards?

Eligibility and Guidelines

- To be eligible to apply for the award, youth applicants must be currently enrolled in the 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grade or equivalent and reside in Tippecanoe County (IN).
- Each application requires an adult who will need to complete the Asset Builder section of the application. An appropriate mentor is an adult who can speak to the youth's personal qualities, accomplishments, and impact on the community. It is preferred that the Asset Builder not be related to applicants.
- Youth Applicants may apply for up to three award categories. Please note that many questions differ between categories. You may reuse your responses for the questions that are the same.
- Applications are to be submitted to Bauer Family Resources at 330 Fountain Street, Lafayette, IN 47901. Applications may be mailed or delivered by hand. Applications must be received by February 17, 2017 at 5:00 pm (Be sure to include the Applicant/Mentor Information Sheet and Media Release).
- Call (765) 742-4848 or email gbritzke@bauerfamilyresources.org with any questions
- If you do not have access to a computer, available community resources include Tippecanoe County Public Libraries and West Lafayette Public Library.

Winners will be recognized at a banquet held in their honor on April 4, 2017.