

2025 Community Service Awards

GIVING *Liberates* THE *Soul*

Nominations Now Open

The Center for Service Learning & Civic Engagement presents the 2025 Community Service Awards: Giving Liberates the Soul . Nominate a student, faculty/staff member, student organization or community partner.

SAVE THE DATE

APRIL 09 2025



FLOYD PAYNE STUDENT
CENTER- THE FORUM



Nomination Criteria & Guidelines

Before submitting a nomination packet, readers should review the guidelines below to ensure nominees meet the necessary criteria. If a nominee does not meet the guidelines, the application will not be considered.

1. Individual student nominees must be a full-time student taking a minimum of twelve (12) credit hours and must be in good standing with the University at the time of nomination and at the time of the award ceremony. Good standing is defined as not being on any academic or disciplinary sanction.
2. Student organization nominees must be in good standing with the Office of Student Activities & Leadership at the time of nomination and at the time of the award ceremony. Good standing is defined as fully chartered, registered, and not facing any disciplinary action.
3. Department nominees can include Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Housing, Athletics, etc.
4. Self-nomination is allowed and encouraged along with nominating others.
5. All nomination packets must include the information of the person submitting the nomination, information of the nominee, and a narrative (300 words or less) describing why the nominee should be selected.
6. It is encouraged that all nomination packets are accompanied by supporting documentation. Documentation can include photos, event planning forms, sign-in sheets (proof of student involvement), resumes, etc. Supporting documents are encouraged but not required.

All applications are due no later than ***11:59pm on Sunday, March 30, 2025.***

**For questions on any of the nomination criteria,
Email Ashley Spry, Director of Outreach at Aspry@tnstate.edu.
Or visit the Center for Service Learning & Civic Engagement
Holland Hall, Suite 306**

Community Service Award Descriptions

Individual Student Awards

The Student Community Service Awards honor *one full-time undergraduate* student and *one full-time graduate* student who has made service an integral part of their college experience by their significant contribution to the campus and community. The recipient's efforts build partnerships between the campus and community, are supported by personal reflections about the service, and demonstrate a commitment to lifelong engagement. The recipients also have demonstrated leadership by making multiple contributions to TSU and the community through community service involvement.

The Student Civic Engagement Awards are presented to *one full-time undergraduate* student and *one full-time graduate student* who exemplifies the ideals of uplift and action that improves the community. Whether through political or non-political channels, this student works to make changes on behalf of their fellow students and other members of the local community. This student is respected by their peers and shows a commitment to lifelong advocacy.

Student Organization Awards

The Outstanding Student Organization Award is presented to a registered and in good standing student organization for implementing outstanding community service programming into their organization for at least two years. The service-oriented organization selected as the recipient of this award will have demonstrated their understanding of social responsibility by performing services that benefit the community and campus. This organization will have generously donated their time and skills to improve the quality of life within our society.

The Outstanding Community Event Award is presented to an organization for their creation and execution of an excellent community service event during the 2023-2024 academic year. The event should embody the institution motto of "Think. Work. Serve." through community engagement, overall impact, and student involvement.

Faculty/Staff & Department Awards

The Outstanding Service-Learning Project recognizes a course, co-curricular project, or department that displays excellence in service experience structure, selection of community partners, and use of critical reflection. This service project should include a commitment to the academic, civic, and personal development of students in collaborative projects efforts.

The Faculty Award for Exemplary Service-Learning honors a full-time faculty member who demonstrates excellence incorporating service-learning pedagogy into one or more courses. The recipient uses service-learning best practices as an innovative teaching tool to engage students in civic learning. The recipient's courses also show evidence of student learning, critical reflection, community benefit, and reciprocity with community partners. The recipient has demonstrated a commitment to advocating for service-learning on campus and beyond.

The Staff/Administrator Service Award honors a full-time staff member or administrator who demonstrates excellence in service to the community through both personal and professional volunteer service. The recipient's service activities are collaboratively developed with community members and demonstrate a commitment to advocating for service on campus and beyond.

Alumni Awards

The Outstanding Alumnus/Alumna Service Award recognizes a Tennessee State University graduate who has exhibited a dedication to personal volunteer service. This individual has made service an integral part of their life by their significant contributions to the community. This individual continues the TSU Tiger Spirit with a commitment to service, and embodies the TSU motto, “Think, Work, Serve”.

Community Partner Awards

The Community Partner Award recognizes a community partner or organization for their outstanding work through their impact on student learning outcomes, faculty awareness of community needs, and academic course content. The community partner demonstrates excellence in supervision, mentoring, and placement of service-learning students in meaningful service opportunities. The community partner also demonstrates evidence of efforts to reach out to the university and initiate partnerships to engage students and faculty in mutually beneficial service-learning activities.

Other Awards

The Dr. Sue Fuller Legacy of Service Award was named in honor of Dr. Deena Sue Fuller, who founded the Center for Service Learning and Civic Engagement in 2004, served as its first director, and left a legacy of service throughout her 40 years at Tennessee State University. This award is presented to a community leader who has devoted his or her life to public and community service and has contributed to the legacy of Tennessee State University.



Visit <https://tinyurl.com/TSU25ServiceAwards> to submit a nomination
Nominations are due Sunday, March 30, 2025 by 11:59pm

For questions on any of the award categories,
Email Ashley Spry, Director of Outreach at ASpry@tnstate.edu.
Or visit the Center for Service Learning & Civic Engagement Holland Hall, Suite 306

Supporting Documentation

Hours & Event Reporting

(Optional For Use with Student Organization Awards Only)

Name of Organization	
Internal Partners (Departments, other student organizations, etc.)	
External Partners (Organizations not affiliated with TSU)	

Name of Event	
Date of Event	
Time of Event (Start & End Time)	

Purpose of the Event (Discuss why the event was held, who/what it supports, why is it important)	
Activities Completed	
Number of Attendees (TSU students, faculty/staff only)	

To further support your application, it is suggested you include other supporting documentation/proof (event flyers, photos, sign-in sheets, etc.).

Supporting Documentation

Project/Course Reporting

(Optional For Use with ‘Outstanding Service-Learning Project’ & ‘Faculty Award for Exemplary Service-Learning’ Only)

Name of Faculty/Staff Member(s)	
Course (Name, Course Number, Section)	
Internal Partners (Departments, other student organizations, etc.)	
External Partners (Organizations not affiliated with TSU)	

Name of Project(s)	
Purpose of Project(s) (Discuss why the project was held, who/what it supports, why is it important, how this work is innovative, etc.)	
Activities Completed (How was service completed, how did students learn/reflect)	

To further support your application, it is suggested you include other supporting documentation/proof (course description, syllabus, photos, student work examples etc.).