MOSAIC AWARDS 2014
For Student Leadership
At the Lavender Reception and Mosaic Awards Gala 2014
A partnership of the LBGT Resource Center and the Alliance of Queer and Ally Students

AWARD NOMINATION SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

As change agents in a vibrant, intellectual community, we excel in networking and engaging with our peers to achieve greater understandings on a broad range of issues and to bring a host of projects to fruition. It is equally important, however, to step back and to recognize the tremendous value of accomplishments within our own identity communities, as they lay the foundation for success with others. – Anonymous

THE BASICS

How to submit a nomination:
- Any student organization, constituent group (RSO/RHA/ASMSU/non-registered), or organization advisor may submit an Individual Award nomination or an Organization/Program Award nomination.
- Each student organization or constituency may submit a maximum of two nominations per category.
- Graduate student advisors, faculty advisors, and staff advisors may submit a maximum of one nomination per category.
- All nominations must be received by 5:00 PM on Friday, March 21st, 2014.
- Nominations must be submitted via email to lbgtrc@msu.edu.

Materials needed for nomination submissions:
- A completed nomination form
- A nomination essay following the specific award criteria (double-spaced, 12 pt. font, max. 2 pages).
- Optional additional materials: resume (individual nom. only) and letters of support (limit 1 page each).

Awards selection process:
- Following the nomination deadline all nominations will be sent to a selection committee comprised of MSU students, faculty and staff with no prior commitments to invited organizations.
- Nominations will be evaluated according to the specific award criteria established and addressed in the nomination essay. Selections will be made based on the strength of alignment with the criteria as evidenced in the nomination essay and supporting materials.
- In each category, the selection committee reserves the right to choose the person(s) or organization(s) to receive each award and up to one honorable mention in that category. The committee also reserves the right to determine that the standards set in the awards criteria have or have not been met.

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The contributions of all student organizations and student leaders are valuable and have an impact on the campus community. Registered and non-registered student organizations are eligible to nominate and receive awards.

2014 Award Categories

**Individual Award Categories:**
- Outstanding Executive Board Member
- Outstanding Emerging Leader

**Program Award Categories:**
- Outstanding Social Program
- Outstanding Educational Program
- Outstanding Collaborative Program
- Outstanding Campus Initiative

**Organization Award Categories:**
- Excellence in Team Building
- Excellence in Community Building

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INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

General Individual Awards Eligibility Criteria

- Any student organization or constituency (RSO/RHA/ASMSU/non-registered) may submit an Individual Award nomination.
- Any graduate student advisor, faculty advisor, or staff advisor may submit an Individual Award nomination.

Outstanding Executive Board Member
The Outstanding Executive Board Member Award is presented to an individual whose contributions to an Executive Board have consistently exceeded expectations.

Nomination Components

- Completed Nomination Form
- In a letter format of no more than two typed, double-spaced pages, please describe why the nominee should be considered for this award using the following criteria as a guide:
  - Describe the nominee’s involvement experiences both in the organization and outside of it.
  - Describe how the nominee has contributed to the organization.
  - Describe how the nominee has contributed to the LGBT* community and MSU community.
  - Provide an example of how the nominee has demonstrated commitment and passion in his/her/hir role.
- Optional: Resume (1 page limit) and up to two letters of support (limit 1 page each).

Outstanding Emerging Leader
The Outstanding Emerging Leader is presented to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding potential as a leader and change agent.

Nomination Components

- Completed Nomination Form
- In a letter format of no more than two typed, double-spaced pages, please describe why the nominee should be considered for this award using the following criteria as a guide:
  - Describe the nominee’s involvement experiences both in the organization and outside of it.
  - Describe how the nominee has grown as a leader and change agent.
  - Describe how the nominee has actively taken on additional leadership responsibilities.
  - Describe how the nominee has built and maintained positive relationships with others.
- Optional: Resume (1 page limit) and up to two letters of support (limit 1 page each)

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ORGANIZATION AWARDS

General Organization Awards Eligibility Criteria
- Any student organization or constituency (RSO/RHA/ASMSU/non-registered) may submit a maximum of two self-nominations for any one Organization Award category.
- Advisors, constituents, or other university faculty or staff may submit a maximum of two nominations for any one Organization Award category.

Excellence in Team Building
Excellence in Team Building is awarded to the organization that actively and regularly seeks to foster an inclusive environment (within an executive board and/or entire organization) that meaningfully contributes to the mission or vision of the organization.

Nomination Components
- Completed Nomination Form
- In a letter format of no more than two typed, double-spaced pages, please describe why the nominee should be considered for this award using the following criteria as a guide:
  - Describe how the organization engages in team building, including any activities, discussions, or programs that have served this end.
  - Provide an example of how this team building has allowed the organization to succeed in an event or project.
  - Provide an example of how this team building has contributed to mission or vision of the organization.
- Optional: Up to two letters of support (limit 1 page each).

Excellence in Community Building
Excellence in Community Building is awarded to the organization that actively seeks to develop a strong sense of community beyond its immediate organizational boundaries.

Nomination Components
- Completed Nomination Form
- In a letter format of no more than two typed, double-spaced pages, please describe why the nominee should be considered for this award using the following criteria as a guide:
  - Describe any collaborative efforts between the organization and other groups.
  - Describe any projects, initiatives, or other endeavors for outreach that extend beyond the traditional range of the organization.
  - Describe efforts that have reached on campus students, off campus students, and/or both.
  - Describe how the organization has improved and/or enhanced the MSU community.
  - Describe some of the organization’s significant achievements.
- Optional: Up to two letters of support (limit 1 page each).

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PROGRAM AWARDS

General Program Awards Eligibility
- Any student organization or constituency (RSO/RHA/ASMSU/non-registered) may submit a maximum of two self-nominations for any one Program Award category
- Advisors, constituents, or other university faculty or staff may submit a maximum of two nominations for any one Program Award Category
- Program awards will honor an organization or constituency for an outstanding program during the 2012-2013 academic year
- Programs are defined as a one-time event or series of events sponsored by a student organization or constituency

Outstanding Social Program
Outstanding Social Program is awarded to an organization for a program that provides safe space for socialization in a unique and inviting format.

Nomination Components
- Completed Nomination Form
- In a letter format of no more than two typed, double-spaced pages, please describe why the nominee should be considered for this award using the following criteria as a guide:
  - Give a brief description of the program and its intended goals.
  - Describe the program’s immediate and/or long-term outcomes
- Optional: Up to two letters of support (limit 1 page each)

Outstanding Educational Program
Outstanding Educational Program is awarded to an organization that engages students intellectually in unique and substantive ways/

Nomination Components
- Completed Nomination Form
- In a letter format of no more than two typed, double-spaced pages, please describe why the nominee should be considered for this award using the following criteria as a guide:
  - Give a brief description of the program and its intended goals.
  - Describe the program’s immediate and/or long-term outcomes.
  - Describe how the program engaged students of different academic and identity backgrounds.
  - Describe how the program contributed to the vibrant, intellectual MSU community.
- Optional: Up to two letters of support (limit 1 page each).

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Outstanding Collaborative Program
Outstanding Collaborative Program is awarded to an organization for a program in which the organization collaborated with another group, unit, department, or outside organization to highlight intersections of interests and issues.

Nomination Components
- Completed Nomination Form
- In a letter format of no more than two typed, double-spaced pages, please describe why the nominee should be considered for this award using the following criteria as a guide:
  - Give a brief description of the program and its intended goals.
  - Describe the program’s immediate and/or long-term outcomes.
  - Describe how the program engaged people from different cultures (student, ethnic, racial, class, cultural, geographic, etc.) around a shared issue.
  - Describe how the program promoted the celebration and understanding of various intersections in life.
  - Describe how the program contributed to the vibrant, intellectual MSU community.
  - Describe how programmatic responsibilities were negotiated and executed between the participating organizations.
- Optional: Up to two letters of support (limit 1 page each).

Outstanding Campus Initiative
Outstanding Campus Initiative is awarded to an organization or student(s) for an ongoing or long-term program, project, or initiative that engages students, faculty, and/or staff outside of the once-and-done meeting setting and contributes to the meta-narrative of student activism and involvement.

Nomination Components
- Completed Nomination Form
- In a letter format of no more than two typed, double-spaced pages, please describe why the nominee should be considered for this award using the following criteria as a guide:
  - Give a brief description of the initiative and its intended goals and outcomes.
  - Describe how the initiative engaged students in unique learning settings.
  - Describe how the initiative engaged students, faculty, and/or staff to become active, informed community members.
  - Give an example of how the program introduced thought-provoking topics and ideas to the LGBT* and MSU communities.
- Optional: Up to two letters of support (limit 1 page each).

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