

2011

Mayor's Disability Advocate of the Year Award (MDAYA)

MDAYA Guidelines

The **Mayor's Disability Advocate of the Year Award (MDAYA)** seeks to recognize and honor the contributions of advocates who, through their volunteerism in the community, have provided a notable effort towards one or more of the following:

- Increasing awareness of disability related issues in the nondisabled Houston community.
- Working towards dissolution of one or more barriers to people with disabilities.
- Being the voice for those who have difficulty or cannot represent themselves.

Selected from the City of Houston each year are **two adult disability advocates** (one with a disability and one without), and **one youth disability advocate**. At the discretion of the MDAYA selection committee, **one posthumous** award may be given.

All awards are based on the virtue and impact of their work using the following criteria:

Community Advocate (Disabled, Nondisabled and Posthumous) - recognizes the outstanding volunteer efforts of an individual dedicated toward improving conditions and opportunities in the disability community. He/She should be a positive role model whose actions encourage others to follow in their footsteps.

Youth Advocate - recognizes a young person no older than 18 years of age for outstanding work in the community. This work should include selfless volunteer work exhibiting leadership qualities that will inspire our youth to become future leaders and advocates for the disability community

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MDAYA Nomination Criteria

All nominations must include the attached Nomination Form and a biography which highlights volunteer services performed by the nominee.

- An individual currently engaged in volunteer service that improves the quality of life of people with disabilities in Houston.
- Contribution and/or activity must have been performed in the greater Houston area for a minimum of one calendar year.
- Incomplete nominations will not be considered.
- Award recipients will be asked to attend a recognition event during Disability Awareness month at Houston's City Hall.
- Award recipients may be asked to do media interviews.
- Nominees are not eligible if they
 - a. are currently serving on the Houston Commission on Disabilities
 - b. are currently working in the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD)
 - c. have received the award within the last four years.

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MDAYA NOMINATION FORM

Category (choose only one)

- Community Advocate - Disabled
- Community Advocate – Nondisabled
- Youth Advocate
- Posthumous

Please print clearly or type in the spaces below. If you have questions, e-mail Kaitlyn.Tracy@houstontx.gov or phone at 281-936-0770.

Individual Nominee

Name _____

Home Phone _____

Work (Cell) Phone _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____

ZIP _____

E-mail _____

Nominator

Name _____

Home Phone _____

Work (Cell) Phone _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____

ZIP _____

E-mail _____

Nominator's Signature

Date

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DEADLINE: Must be postmarked by August 31, 2011

Submit via U.S. Mail or email the complete:

- Nomination form (mandatory)**
- Narrative statement / Letter of Recommendation (mandatory)**
- Resume / Bio (mandatory)**
- Other Supporting materials**

Nominee will not be considered if all materials are not submitted

Send To:

City of Houston/ Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities

Attn: Kaitlyn Tracy

1475 W. Gray St.

Houston, TX 77019

OR

Kaitlyn.Tracy@houstontx.gov

Deadline: Postmarked by August 31, 2011

E-mail questions to: Kaitlyn.Tracy@houstontx.gov