

Celebrate Youth Volunteers through Prestigious Award Program

August 2016

Dear Colleague:

Are there students at your school making a difference through volunteering?

Recognize their contributions and promote youth volunteerism in your school and community by encouraging them to apply for The 2017 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

Now in its 22nd year, The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program provides your school with an opportunity to celebrate the spirit of volunteerism throughout the student body and to recognize students who have distinguished themselves through community service. It also can generate positive publicity for your school and gives one (or more) of your students the chance to win state and national awards.

Here's how it works:

- **Promote:** Ask all of the students in your school who have participated in community service activities over the past year to fill out an online application at <http://spirit.prudential.com> or www.nassp.org/spirit. **Applications must be submitted to you by November 8, 2016.**
- **Select:** Then, your school can select a top youth volunteer for state-level honors by certifying his/her application by **November 18, 2016.**

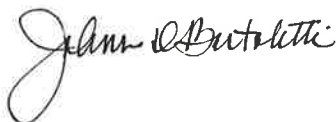
Your school's honoree will receive the President's Volunteer Service Award (if he or she has contributed the minimum number of volunteer hours to qualify), and will become eligible to win an unrestricted award of \$1,000 or more, a beautifully engraved medallion, and an all-expense-paid trip with a parent or guardian to Washington, D.C., next spring for four days of special recognition events.

- **Celebrate:** State-level honorees will be announced in February 2017. In the meantime, your school may recognize top applicants for their volunteer service and hold them up as role models for their peers by presenting them with Prudential Spirit of Community Award certificates.

Enclosed is everything you need to participate: complete details, an application instruction sheet, a promotional poster, and certificates for your school's top applicants. If you have any questions or need a paper version of the application, please call 877-525-8491 or e-mail spirit@nassp.org.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards were created by the National Association of Secondary School Principals and Prudential Financial in 1995 to honor both middle level and high school students for outstanding acts of community service. Since then, more than 115,000 youth volunteers have been honored at the local, state and national level. We hope we can honor one of your students this year!

Sincerely,



JoAnn Bartoletti
Executive Director
NASSP

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How to Participate in The 2017 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards Program

Early September

ANNOUNCE to all young people that, if they have participated in a volunteer service activity in the past year, they can apply for a 2017 Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

September & October

DISTRIBUTE copies of the enclosed application instruction sheet to interested students and encourage them to apply online by **Tuesday, November 8** at **spirit.prudential.com** or **nassp.org/spirit**.

REMIND applicants that they and their parent or guardian must complete the student/parent agreement page on the last tab of the application.

Mid-October

REMIND young people that the application deadline is approaching.

November

REVIEW all applications online, and then select one Local Honoree and up to two runners-up for every 1,000 students (or portion thereof).

CERTIFY your designated Local Honoree(s) and nominate him/her/them for state-level judging by 11:59 p.m. Central Standard Time on **Friday, November 18**.

RECOGNIZE your Local Honoree(s) and runners-up, and present them with the enclosed certificates. (For additional certificates, call 877-525-8491).

February

WATCH for the announcement of state-level judging results on **Tuesday, February 7, 2017**.