



2010 Volunteer Awards Nomination Package

The Autism Ontario Volunteer Awards are presented annually to volunteers from communities across Ontario who have distinguished themselves in their work with our organization and thus benefitting children, youth and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). Award recipients are individuals and teams whose support of Autism Ontario has contributed significantly to the advancement of our mission and vision.

These awards complement the Gerry Bloomfield Award and focus on those who volunteer specifically for Autism Ontario. The Gerry Bloomfield Award continues to be presented at our Annual General Meeting in June.

Our recognition program is our way of saying thank you to all of you who have contributed time, funds and support to our organization. Even though we are celebrating the winners of these awards, the true winner is us, Autism Ontario.

These awards will be presented on Saturday, October 23, 2010 during SEAC Training weekend in Toronto.

Eligibility Requirements:

In order to be considered for one of the 2010 Volunteer Awards, the following must be in place:

- ✓ fully complete a **nomination form** for each nominee (*Attached*)
- ✓ provide **3 letters of support** from people who know the candidate and can affirm their accomplishments (see the guidelines below)
- ✓ **Completed nomination forms must be received at the Provincial Office by 5:00 PM on October 8, 2010.**

Letters of Support

It is the role of the Awards Review Committee to examine each nomination very carefully and to appraise the merits and worthiness of the nominee. As most nominees will not be known personally by the committee members, the effectiveness of the 'letters of support' which accompany each nomination is critical to selecting the most deserving recipients. To ensure that your candidate is considered in a fair and equitable manner, it is your responsibility to solicit the very best people to write the required 'letters of support'. Three 'letters of support' must accompany each nomination, of which, **only one may be written by a staff person**. Other individuals to approach for these letters may be:

- fellow council members or other volunteers

- community representatives who have worked with the individual – either through Autism Ontario events or external activities e.g. the Mayor, an employer, etc.
- in the case of youth nominees, letters from coaches, teachers and clergymen would be advised
- children, youth, young adults or parents who have benefited directly from the work of this individual

The broader the cross-section of people approached, the better the representation of the individual's merits will be displayed.

Make sure to include the following information in the 'letters of support':

- ✓ define their **relationship** to the candidate and why they have been selected to write this letter
- ✓ identify the **employer** of the nominee, if applicable
- ✓ provide **concrete examples** of their first-hand knowledge of the candidate's capabilities and contributions – make reference to specific Autism Ontario activities as well as to other community events
- ✓ include **personal anecdotes, funny or touching stories, quotes from others**, etc.
- ✓ include **background information** on the candidate such as personal circumstances, if that is appropriate
- ✓ explain why this person/group's **capabilities** are so **outstanding** as compared to others
- ✓ outline the **personal qualities** that make this nominee so special and unique
- ✓ elaborate on his/her **particular commitment** to Autism Ontario
- ✓ explain how this individual/group's achievement reflect the **criteria for the award** for which they are being nominated
- ✓ give details on how this person/group's work has impacted Autism Ontario **beyond their own community, at the regional or provincial level**
- ✓ include items which display the **attitude** of the candidate
- ✓ identify the **length of time** that the candidate has been involved with the organization or how long they have been associated with a particular event or activity



2010 Volunteer Awards Nomination Form

Full Name of Nominee _____

Home Address _____

Telephone No. _____ Alternate Phone No. _____

Volunteer's Occupation (if applicable) _____

Name of Chapter (if relevant) _____

How long have they volunteered with Autism Ontario? _____

For which Award are you submitting this nomination? (Please note that a separate package is required for each award nomination.) _____

I hereby affirm the information contained herein is accurate to the best of my knowledge and understanding, and follows the Nomination Guidelines. I agree to provide additional information if requested by the Selection Committee.

Nominator's Name _____ Telephone # _____

Email: _____

Address _____

City _____ Postal Code _____

Signature of Nominator (REQUIRED) _____

Date _____



2010 Volunteer Award Nominees Consent Form

This Consent Form for the Collection, Use and Disclosure of Personal Information for the Autism Ontario Volunteer Award must be completed and signed by the nominee.

I, _____
(Please Print Your Name)

_____ Consent OR _____ do not consent to being nominated for a 2010 Autism Ontario Volunteer Award.

I understand that my information may be used and disclosed to the Selection Committee for the purpose of selecting the award winners. It may also be used and disclosed, in any public forum, and in any form or by any means, including print and electronic media, solely for the purpose of promoting the award.

I understand that consenting to my information being collected, used and disclosed for the Autism Ontario Volunteer Award is voluntary. I also understand that my refusal to consent will mean that my nomination will not be considered for the Award. I have reviewed the information collected about myself for the Autism Ontario Volunteer Award and it is accurate.

SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE

DATE

Please mail the completed package to:

The Volunteer Award Selection Committee
Autism Ontario
1179 King Street West, Suite 004
Toronto, ON M6K 3C5

2010 Autism Ontario Volunteer Awards

To be presented Saturday, October 23, 2010 during the SEAC Training weekend.

AWARD	ELIGIBILITY	CRITERIA	NOMINATOR
Non-Parent Award	Individual volunteer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • exemplary volunteer or contributor • demonstrates quiet strength and support behind outstanding achievement • demonstrates quality and integrity of performance • is not a parent of an individual with ASD 	Autism Ontario Volunteers and Staff
New Volunteer Award	Individual volunteer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • exemplary volunteer or contributor • demonstrates quiet strength and support behind outstanding achievement • demonstrates quality and integrity of performance • is new to volunteering with Autism Ontario (one year of service or less.) 	Autism Ontario Volunteers and Staff
Distinguished Service Award (maximum of 3 per year)	Individual volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has demonstrated sustained and extraordinary service to Autism Ontario • work has benefited individuals with ASD across the province • helps others to appreciate the value of volunteering 	Autism Ontario Volunteers and Staff
Community Builder Award	Individual, group or corporate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meritorious service to the cause • demonstrates long-standing loyalty and steadfast service to Autism Ontario • has made a remarkable difference in the lives of individuals with ASD through a contribution of time, talent, material and /or financial resources 	Autism Ontario Volunteers and Staff
Youth Volunteer Leadership Award	Youth ages 14-25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • exemplary leadership skills • displays dedication and commitment to Autism Ontario through their volunteer role • helps others to see the value of volunteering and encourages their involvement 	Autism Ontario Volunteers and Staff – except family members
Advocate Award	Individual volunteer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • influences positive changes in the lives of those living with ASD through advocacy activities • knowledgeable and speaks out on issues • communicates well on behalf of individuals with ASD 	Autism Ontario Volunteers and Staff – except family members
Parent Volunteer Award	Parent of an individual with ASD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • positively supports his/her child in all endeavors • displays commitment and dedication to Autism Ontario • actively involved in Autism Ontario activities 	Autism Ontario Volunteers and Staff – except family members

N.B. - Eligibility for awards with age restrictions refer to the individual's age as of September 1, 2010.

Deadline for Submission is October 8, 2010.

All nominations packages must be submitted to the Provincial Office for review by the Volunteer Awards Committee.