



## Livingston County Youth Bureau

Livingston County Government Center  
6 Court Street, Room 105  
Geneseo, NY 14454-1043  
Phone: (585) 243-6909 Fax : (585) 243-7598

Ryan Snyder, Director

rsnyder@co.livingston.ny.us

November 9, 2020

Dear Community Member:

The Youth Bureau/Board of Livingston County is contacting you for assistance in our annual Teen Recognition Awards nomination process. Our goal is to recognize and award youth in our County who have demonstrated community involvement, exceptional leadership, or have positively influenced others by overcoming a significant challenge. To be considered eligible, the exemplary teens must be age 15 by February 5, 2021. Youth are eligible while in school and up to high school graduation.

**Youth may be awarded in one of three areas:**

- 1. Community Involvement**
- 2. Leadership**
- 3. Positive Influence on Others While Overcoming a Significant Challenge**

Community members who interact with youth in schools, government, organizations, faith communities, neighborhoods, etc, are asked to nominate the teens whose actions and behaviors over time make the community a better place. Feel free to share this letter, nomination form, and instructions with other community members that work with youth. If you are a school administrator or guidance staff member please distribute the forms to teachers, student advisors and other school personnel.

Please carefully read the enclosed Nomination Instructions and Rules and then complete the Nomination Form. **The deadline for submission is Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup>.** Selected nominees will be informed and subsequently recognized in a meaningful manner to be determined by the Youth Board.

Both the electronic and downloadable forms are available under the Youth Bureau Department at [livingstoncounty.us/youth.htm](http://livingstoncounty.us/youth.htm). A nomination may be submitted electronically through the website, the form downloaded and emailed to [mguldenschuh@co.livingston.ny.us](mailto:mguldenschuh@co.livingston.ny.us), or a hardcopy may be mailed to Livingston County Youth Bureau, 6 Court Street Room 105 Geneseo, NY 14454. Please contact Mary Guldenschuh by email or at the Youth Bureau, 243-6909 if you have any questions or need additional information regarding this award.

Sincerely,

**Ted Saunders**

Theodore Saunders  
Youth Board Chairman

Attachments

**2021 Livingston County Youth Bureau Board  
Teen Recognition Award**

Electronic forms are available at: [livingstoncounty.us/youth.htm](http://livingstoncounty.us/youth.htm)

**Our goal is to recognize and award youth in our county who have demonstrated community involvement, exceptional leadership, or had a positive influence on others while overcoming a significant challenge.**

- ❑ **Youth will be awarded under one of the following categories: Either (1) Community Involvement, (2) Leadership, OR (3) Overcoming a challenge and how it has influenced others.**
- ❑ In order for a youth to be nominated they must be **age 15** by February 5, 2021. Youth are eligible while in school and up to high school graduation.
- ❑ A nominee may be a Livingston County resident or may reside outside the county and make a significant contribution to Livingston County.
- ❑ Academic and athletic abilities or participation alone are NOT considered criteria for selection. However, the manner in which the teen leads (cooperative, team player, mentor, leader) may be considered relevant to the nomination.

**Please follow these instructions and rules**

- ❑ All nominations need to be completed using the attached form or submitted on-line using the above link. Hard copy submissions must be postmarked by Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> or delivered by 4:00PM, or they will be disqualified.
- ❑ Parents, guardians, and relatives are not eligible to make a nomination for relatives. Youth may nominate their peers.
- ❑ **Nominators are limited to making five (5) nominations per year in total and may not nominate the same youth in subsequent years.** See website for past recipients [livingstoncounty.us/youth.htm](http://livingstoncounty.us/youth.htm)
- ❑ If you are nominating youth that belong to a group; each nomination needs to be written separately and the information should be unique to the individual group member nominated. Specify what stood out about the individual in comparison to others in the group. Redundant nominations will be excluded.
- ❑ Provide DETAIL to support and substantiate the chosen award category. Please interview the youth prior to making the nomination. Personal information provided will be used discreetly in the published nomination summaries.
- ❑ Do NOT attach resumes or reference letters.
- ❑ **Submit forms by 4:00 PM on February 5<sup>th</sup> to:**  
Livingston County Youth Bureau, 6 Court Street, Room 105, Geneseo, NY 14454. Forms may be faxed to (585) 243-7598 or emailed to [mguldenschuh@co.livingston.ny.us](mailto:mguldenschuh@co.livingston.ny.us)

You will receive a confirmation email and a copy of the electronic form if submitting online.

Please call Mary Guldenschuh at 243-6909 if you have questions concerning the forms or process.

**Announcement and Presentation of Awards**

- ❑ A selection committee of the Youth Bureau Board will review each nomination to determine eligibility.
- ❑ After the committee review and selection process has been completed, the approved nominees will be sent a letter of congratulations and informed of the plan for recognition. The nominator is also informed of the plan where the youth will receive Legislature certificates and recognition by the Livingston County Board of Supervisors.
- ❑ A separate certificate will be mailed to the nominator in order to recognize the youth locally.

**2021 Livingston County Youth Bureau/Board  
Teen Recognition Award Nomination Form**

**This form may be photocopied. Use one form per youth.  
Nominations must be submitted on this form to be considered. Please print.  
DO NOT attach reference letters or resumes.**

Teen's Last Name: _____ First Name: _____	
Age or DOB: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Teen's Mailing Address: _____	
Post Office Box: _____	Email: _____
Teen's City / State: _____ / _____ Zip Code: _____	
Phone: <input type="checkbox"/> Teen <input type="checkbox"/> Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Landline <input type="checkbox"/> Cell _____	
School Attending: _____ Township of Residence: _____	
<b>Nominator Information:</b>	
Nominator Last Name: _____ First Name: _____	
Phone: <input type="checkbox"/> Landline <input type="checkbox"/> Cell _____ I certify I am <u>not</u> related to the nominee: _____ (initial)	
Organization/School Affiliation: _____	
Mailing Address: _____	
City / State: _____ / _____ Zip Code: _____	
Email: _____	
Your relationship to the teen: _____	

✓ Choose **ONLY ONE** type of award that best fits your nominee:

<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Community Involvement</b> Describe in detail the nominee's role/contribution within the community and his or her commitment to volunteerism and community service. Please list the youth's participation in organizations, committees, or community groups.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Leadership</b> Describe how the nominee has demonstrated leadership by enlisting the aid and support of others to accomplish a common goal. <u>Athletic and academic abilities alone are not considered criteria for selection.</u> Leadership on and off the field or in and out of the classroom must be clearly demonstrated. The manner in which the teen leads such as being cooperative, acting as a role model, motivating others or mentoring is more relevant to the nomination than the athletic or academic skill.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Positive Influence on Others While Overcoming a Challenge</b> Some youth have been faced with challenging personal situations such as illness, disability, substance abuse, or loss of a family member or friend that impacts their lives. The key component in this category is the teen uses it in a positive way to <u>impact and influence others.</u> All sensitive information will be kept confidential.</p>
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## Sample Nominations

### **Award Type One: Community Involvement**

*Joe Jones is an all around great guy! He has been an altar server at St. Mary's Church for eight years and has helped at church fundraisers even hulling strawberries for the Strawberry Social! Whatever the sport he tried (football, wrestling and track & field) he always is the kid to give some tips to the younger and or less experienced kids so they can improve in that sport. Joe and his brother have been cutting wood for several years for a co-worker of his brothers that is incapacitated. His kindness begins at home by shoveling snow at his grandmothers and a neighbors without being asked to do so and feeds his brothers dog when his brother is out of town working. At Hemlock Fair he has volunteered for many hours at the 4-H food tent helping Ron Niedermaier. He can do any of the jobs needed but he also is laid back enough to instruct the younger kids in an easy going manner that does not intimidate. When Joe showed animals at the fairs, the younger kids would come up to him and ask him for advice, which he would give or show them what they needed to do. Joe was the June Student of the Month due to his strong work ethic and kindness to others at Geneseo Valley Career Partnership.*

### **Award Type Two: Leadership**

*Mary Smith is a genuine role model for others in Ossian as well as all of Livingston County. She is a shining and outstanding example of true commitment to volunteerism leading by example in all she is involved in. Mary is a member of the Livingston County 4-H Teen Council where she serves as the vice-president. In Teen Council, Mary has been involved in the 4-H Gingerbread Project for Dansville's Winter in the Village. She has also gone with 4-H teens to the Livingston County Nursing Home to play games with the residents. Mary is involved with a County 4-H pony club and independently focuses on horses. At the Genesee Valley Horse Races, Mary volunteered giving pony races to the public. Mary is a member of the Dansville High School National Honor Society. For her community service she has been cleaning the Ossian Town Hall. During this past Labor Day weekend, Mary and her swimming team made and served breakfast to the public. Mary has helped with Dansville Sunshine Softball for three years working with younger players demonstrating her athletic and leadership skills. Mary is a member of the Dansville High School Band where she plays flute. She is a member of St. Mary's Young Adult Faith Formation where she was involved with Project Christmas giving gifts to children in need. An inspiration to us all, Mary surrounds her life in kindness, as she is involved giving to the ill, needy and elderly and encouraging and leading others. Mary is quiet upon approach with a very sweet manner and beautiful smile. She is eager and passionate in whatever she engages in yet always aware and encouraging of others. Ossian is proud to have a young lady such as Mary who leads by example with character, enthusiasm, determination, and devotion. Whatever path she chooses, others will be blessed to have her as part of their team.*

### **Award Type Three: Positive Influence on Others While Overcoming a Challenge**

*Jane Jones has been through a lot in her life. She has never known her father and her mother has been in and out of jail for Jane's whole life. She lived with her brother and his father for a time and would roam the streets of the city of Chicago when she was four years old. She then went to live with her grandparents. Her grandparents gave her up at the age of 10 and she went to live with her mom. That situation did not work and she ended up in a foster care home. From there she had a choice at the age of 11 to be adopted by a teacher or go live with her uncle. She chose family and that is where she remains today. She feels that because of all the negativity around her people expected her to take the wrong path. In order to prove them wrong she intentionally remained in school and on the path toward a better life. She feels that what she has gone through has made her independent and very level headed. She is able to weigh her options when confronted with a choice and able to see the big picture, which is fantastic for one so young. People admire her; I know I do, for all she has achieved despite her background. Friends come to her for her insight and her ability to put their lives in perspective for them. Her future includes the National Guard - training in South Carolina and then AIT in Virginia. After that she plans on going to a two-year college and then transferring. She would love to find work in the nutrition and psychology fields. Jane sums her life up with this statement: One needs to take what happens to them and learn from it. She is an amazing individual!*