



## **“What’s Your 50?” Youth Volunteer Recognition Form & Youth of the Year Scholarship Application Form**

**\*\* All applicants are invited to attend a celebration and recognition event on Thursday, March 28, 2019 (6:00-8:30 pm) at Decades Event Center (1208 Grand Ave, West Des Moines, IA).**

**\*\* Please indicate for which award you are applying. Volunteer Recognition applicants must live in Iowa and be under the age of 20. Scholarship applicants must be current Iowa high school seniors entering an accredited post-secondary institution in 2019 OR currently enrolled in an accredited post-secondary institution.**

### **Recognition only \_\_\_\_**

- Required minimum of 50 hours of service in the past year.
- Required information: applicant information, volunteer activities, media release statement, and a photo of you in volunteer action.

### **Scholarship only \_\_\_\_**

- Required minimum of 100 hours of service in the past year or 200 hours in the past two years.
- Required information: applicant information, volunteer activities, media release statement, letter of recommendation, and a photo of you in volunteer action.

### **Both \_\_\_\_**

- Please ensure that **all information** is completed for both awards.

**All materials must be submitted to Community Youth Concepts by Friday, March 1, 2019 by 4:30 pm. Incomplete and/or late submissions will not be considered.**

Materials and questions can be submitted via email to [info@cyconcepts.org](mailto:info@cyconcepts.org) or via mail to:

Community Youth Concepts  
1446 Martin Luther King Jr. Pkwy  
Des Moines, Iowa 50314

Phone inquiries accepted at 515-243-4292.



**APPLICANT INFORMATION (Required for recognition and scholarship)**

**Student Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Current School: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Information (1):**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Information (2):**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Volunteer Activities Information: (Required for recognition and scholarship)**

On a **separate piece of paper**, thoroughly respond to each of the following questions.

1. Number of hours you have contributed to service projects. (Minimum of 50 hours over the past year for recognition and 100 hours over the past year or 200 hours over the past two years for scholarship.)
2. Please list all service projects you have worked on in this time. If possible, provide dates and location for the service projects as well as a reference who could verify the service was completed.
3. What were your role(s) in the projects listed above?
4. How did the service activities impact the community or specific persons?
5. How has your service impacted you?



**Media Release Statement: (Required for recognition and scholarship)**

I hereby consent to the participation in interviews, the use of quotes, and the taking of and use of provided photographs, movies or videotapes of:

\_\_\_\_\_ (Student Name)

I also grant to the right to edit, use, and reuse said products for non- profit purposes including use in print, on the internet, and all other forms of media. I also hereby release Community Youth Concepts, its partners, volunteers, and employees from all claims, demands, and liabilities whatsoever in connection with the above.

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if student is under 18): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Letter of Recommendation: (Required for scholarship only)**

Submit one letter of recommendation from an adult, other than a family member, who is familiar with your volunteer experiences. The letter must contain the following information:

1. Student name and school of attendance.
2. Name, relationship to student, and how long you have known the student.
3. How did the student grow and learn from the projects he/she participated in?
4. What makes the student deserving of the scholarship? How might he/she grow and benefit from the award?
5. Are there extenuating circumstances that make this scholarship important to the recipient?
6. Signature and contact information (including name, address, phone, business/institution, and date) from individual submitting the letter of recommendation.



## **Youth Volunteer of the Year Scholarship Application Supplemental Information**

The Youth Volunteer of the Year Scholarship Award provides \$500 scholarships to up to five youth who are making extraordinary things happen by their commitment and dedication to serving their community, whether that is their school, neighborhood, city, state, nation, or world. One scholarship is available to youth throughout the state of Iowa; four are available to youth within the Des Moines metro area. New in 2019, one scholarship is available to a student currently enrolled in an accredited institution who has continued to emphasize volunteer service. The recipients of the award will be recognized and celebrated for their contributions at an event at Community Youth Concepts on March 28, 2019. Four high school scholarships are generously provided by the Kiwanis Club of Des Moines. An applicant may only receive one award.

Eligibility requirements are as follows:

1. Scholarship applicant must live in Iowa, be under the age of 24 and be either a senior enrolled in and attending high school with the intention to graduate in spring of 2019, or currently enrolled in an accredited higher learning institution.
2. Applicant must plan on enrolling in an accredited higher learning institution during the 2019-20 academic year.
3. The applicant must have met the minimum requirement of 100 hours of service in the past school year or 200 hours over the past two years. Applicants cannot submit hours for which they have received compensation including (but not limited to) AmeriCorps hours, paid internships, etc.
4. All of the information requested must be completed, including phone numbers and address, so parents/guardians and students can be formally invited to the acceptance ceremony.
5. A letter of recommendation must be submitted with the form and written by the student's school, volunteer program, church or community based organization. Letters from family members will not be accepted.
6. The application must be submitted to Community Youth Concepts (1446 Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway, Des Moines, Iowa 50314) no later than 4:30 pm on Friday, March 1, 2019. Incomplete and/or late submissions will not be considered.
7. All financial awards will be mailed directly to the post-secondary school of the recipient's choice upon receipt of the Youth of the Year Scholarship Information Form provided at the March 28, 2019 event. The award will be paid at the beginning of the second semester of attendance. Award recipient must notify CYC of any transfers or changes in attendance.



## **Selection Process**

A review panel will evaluate submissions and make selections based on the criteria listed below:

- Documentation of volunteer service activities, including specific dates and locations of projects. Projects are volunteer-based, community-oriented, and go beyond extra-curricular activities.
- Essay provides clear record of service activities, roles, responsibilities, years of involvement and hours invested. Information is detailed and demonstrates depth of service, not just breadth, in at least one project or issue area. At least one entity who can verify the service is recorded.
- Essay demonstrates high impact of service on the community or on a specific person(s) and describes how service meets a real and compelling need or needs.
- Essay describes how the service has impacted the student's worldview.
- Letter of recommendation provides eager support and clearly indicates specific examples of leadership, impact, and commitment. The letter explicitly states the reason(s) the student deserves the award.

## **Recognition**

Award recipients will have a summary of their service published in the Community Youth Concepts newsletter and highlighted by the Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service. An official press release will also be disseminated.