



2008 Juvenile Justice Awards

Call for Nominations



Dear Colleagues:

This is a reminder that the time is **now** to submit nominations for VJJA's Meritorious Awards given out in conjunction with VJJA's 32nd Fall Juvenile Justice Institute, "*Changing the Script and Unlocking the Future*", planned for November 5 and 6, 2008, in Charlottesville. Meritorious awards are given in the areas of Administration, Residential, Court Services, and Community Service.

The Process

The nomination process is relatively simple – go to the VJJA web site www.vjja.org, click on "Awards", download a nomination form and email me with your nomination. At a minimum, please include the name of the nominee, their place of employment, and a brief explanation as to why you feel the individual is a worthy recipient. Nominations can be submitted by an individual or a group can submit a nomination together. I'll immediately acknowledge your nomination via email.

Deadline

All nominations must be received no later than close of business on **Friday, October 17, 2008**. You will be notified prior to the conference if your nominee(s) has/have been selected.

Criterion

For your convenience, attached is the criterion for each award category. Of note, please remember that you must be a VJJA member (in good standing) in order to submit a nomination. Also, all nominees, with the exception of nominees in the area of community service, must be VJJA members (in good standing). So, please make sure that you've renewed your membership for the new fiscal year *and* your nominee has done so as well.

There is no better way to acknowledge a colleague's hard work than recognition in front of his or her peers at VJJA's annual Fall Juvenile Justice Institute. Awards will be presented during the annual business meeting and breakfast scheduled for November 6. Plan to attend and don't forget to send in your nominations for these coveted awards.

I look forward to seeing you at the conference,

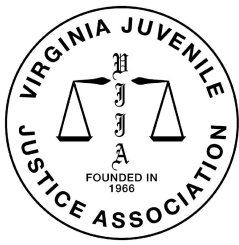
Scott Warner, VJJA Awards Chairperson

703.481.4023 or awards@vjja.org

Virginia Juvenile Justice Association

Advocating for court-involved children and bringing together the professionals who touch their lives.

The Virginia Juvenile Justice Association is an organization comprised of nearly 1200 professionals representing court/probation services, the judiciary, indigent defense, prosecution, correctional centers, detention homes, halfway houses, wilderness academies, psychiatric hospitals, group homes, social services, mental health, education and other groups with an interest in youth and family services. The organization is administered by an elected board of directors and is committed to advocating for court-involved children and advancing the professional interests and competencies of its members. In addition to providing many regional opportunities for professional development and networking, the group hosts a statewide conference each fall. Members receive many benefits including free publications, discounted training and eligibility for scholarships. VJJA also hosts a web-site and administers several list serves to facilitate direct communication and collaboration between our members. To learn more, visit us on-line at: www.vjja.org



2008 Juvenile Justice Awards

Awards Criterion



Meritorious Award in the Area of COURT SERVICES

Given annually, this honor is bestowed upon a worker who has demonstrated a high degree of skill and professionalism, who embraces the philosophies upon which VJJA was founded, who embodies exceptional dedication and who consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty to positively and significantly contribute to the juvenile justice field and the children it serves.

The nominee should be an employee of a court service unit, as well as a member of VJJA (in good standing).

Meritorious Award in the Area of RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Given annually, this honor is bestowed upon a worker who has demonstrated a high degree of skill and professionalism, who embraces the philosophies upon which VJJA was founded, who embodies exceptional dedication and who consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty to positively and significantly contribute to the juvenile justice field and the children it serves.

The nominee should be an employee of a detention home, juvenile correctional center, halfway house, group home, psychiatric hospital, shelter care facility or other residential setting, as well as a member of VJJA (in good standing).

Meritorious Award in the Area of ADMINISTRATION

Given annually, the honor is bestowed upon an administrator who has made a mark on their profession, who embodies the highest degree of excellence in leadership, service, and commitment and who has contributed significantly to the juvenile justice field.

The nominee should be in a managerial, supervisory, leadership or policy-making role with an agency serving or working in support of court-involved children. The nominee must also be a member of VJJA (in good standing).

Meritorious Award in the Area of COMMUNITY SERVICE

Given annually, the honor is bestowed upon a group or individual working to make a difference in their community. The individual or group should be engaged in work involving or in support of court-involved children and should have positively impacted the lives of young people and inspired or motivated others.

The nominee should be a volunteer or professional working with court-involved children, but need not be a VJJA member.

Robert H. Sutton Humanitarian Award

The Virginia Juvenile Justice Association (VJJA) established the Robert H. Sutton Humanitarian Award in 1988 to recognize outstanding career achievement of a professional who embodies the true meaning of the term "humanitarian". The ideal recipient will have made significant contributions to the juvenile justice field and will have made conscientious career and personal decisions for the betterment of other human beings. They will have used their expertise and leadership to advocate for court-involved children and will have consistently worked to promote human welfare and social reform. This coveted honor is not awarded annually, but rather at the discretion of VJJA's Board of Directors.

Nominees in this category should be employed in or retired from an agency serving or working in support of court-involved children. The nominee must also be a member of the Virginia Juvenile Justice Association (in good standing).

For each of the categories, the awards committee values the opportunity to review a diverse range of nominees. Members are encouraged to make nominations as a way of honoring colleagues whose work and commitment to the juvenile justice field and the interests of children deserves special attention. To view a list of past winners or to learn more about submitting a nomination, visit our website at: www.vjja.org or contact Scott Warner, Awards Committee Chair, at 703-481-4023 or awards@vjja.org.