

FAIRFAX COUNTY AND FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Business and Community Partnership Awards
2011-2012
OP3, Partners in Education, MentorWorks and Bruce Oliver Leadership

Award Nomination Packet

The Business and Community Partnership Awards program includes partners of the Fairfax County Public Schools and the Fairfax County Office of Public Private Partnerships. This combined effort aims to streamline county and school system efforts and increase recognition for honorees.

The awards are designed to recognize the many valuable contributions being made by business and organization partners throughout Fairfax County and to increase awareness of the importance of business and civic involvement in issues impacting the quality of life in Fairfax County.

Eligibility

Partners are broadly defined as those companies, organizations, or individuals who give assistance to county agencies or schools for the purpose of furthering student achievement or improving the quality of life in Fairfax County. A partner receives no financial remuneration for their efforts.

Criteria

Criteria for each award is listed on the following pages.

Judging

The partnership awards selection committee, including school and county staff and business and community members, will review the nominations and select the recipients. **YOUR ENTRY WILL BE JUDGED SOLELY ON THE INFORMATION SUBMITTED. Please thoroughly answer the questions and provide all pertinent information for consideration.** Judges reserve the right to move nominations into proper categories. All materials become the property of the County of Fairfax and the Fairfax County Public Schools. Results will be announced at the combined Partnership Awards Ceremony beginning at 3:30 p.m. on **May 21, 2012, at the Mason Inn, George Mason University.**

Procedure

To submit a nomination, go to: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/opinio/s?s=3602>

You will provide a narrative in a text box, the equivalent of one and a half pages double spaced, describing how the nominee meets the criteria for the award you have selected. Do not list all activities taking place in your partnership.

All nominations are due **no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, March 16, 2012.**

Nominators for county and/or school system awards will be guided through the nomination form based on the choice that is made:

- Nominations for contributions and partnerships that support FCPS, school and/or the education system
- Nominations which support Fairfax County agencies and/or that address Board of Supervisors' priorities for the County

Pages 2-4 of this document provide nomination information for a Fairfax County Public Schools nomination.

Pages 5 -6 provide nomination information for a Fairfax County nomination.

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There are a total of 7 awards related directly to Fairfax County Public Schools. Nominators, unsure of the award category that they should nominate in, are encouraged to submit nominations for multiple categories. The judging team will help place your nomination in the proper category. When preparing the narrative, the following categories should be used as the format for writing each specific award:

1. Business Partner of the Year Award

This is for a for-profit business that has demonstrated outstanding leadership and service to Fairfax County Public Schools in the Partners in Education program.

- Description of activities
- Extent of involvement (hours, depth, etc.)
- Support of highest level of management in the company
- Impact of volunteer service (outcomes)
- Length of partnership

2. Community Partner of the Year Award

This is for a non-profit community organization that has demonstrated outstanding leadership and service to Fairfax County Public Schools in the Partners in Education program.

- Description of activities
- Extent of involvement (hours, depth, etc.)
- Support of highest level of management in the organization
- Impact of volunteer service (outcomes)
- Length of partnership

The Fairfax County Public School Blue Ribbon Awards are designed to honor and showcase partnerships with a targeted focus. They typically are linked to school plans that, in turn, support School Board priorities. All Blue Ribbon Awards are for business or community organization partners.

3. Blue Ribbon Outstanding Event Award

This award is designed to honor partners who make a significant contribution to Fairfax County Public Schools at a single day or few days long event.

- Description of volunteer activity. (Purpose, support, impact, follow-up, outcomes)
- Level of participation by company (hours, depth, etc.)
- How partnership is linked to School Plan/Strategic Goals
- Data describing results (outcomes); cite specific improvement such as grades, attendance, etc.

4. Blue Ribbon Mentoring Program Award

This award is designed to honor an exemplary mentoring program. The partnership that is responsible for the program's success may be an external partner (e.g. business with school) or an FCPS internal partner (e.g. school with school.)

- Describe the program's commitment to MentorWorks and the usage of best practices in developing and sustaining a quality mentoring program such as training and guidelines
- Written stories of success from mentor and mentee (at least two each)
- Data describing results or outcomes; cite specific improvement such as grades, attendance, etc
- Discuss any unique activities or programs that your mentoring program has implemented

The MentorWorks initiative is a partnership between FCPS, Fairfax County Partnership for Youth and the County Council of PTAs.

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5. Blue Ribbon Workforce Development Award

The Workforce Development Award is designed to promote partnering that makes strong connections between academic subjects and workplace skills, knowledge of career opportunities and fostering a strategic transition from education to the 21st century workforce.

- Description of volunteer activity
- Level of participation by company or organization (hours, depth, etc.)
- How partnership is linked to career and workplace skills
 - How partnership provides a framework of activities across the curriculum for career awareness, career exploration, and career preparation)
- How partnership supports the transition from school to work
- Level of student and staff involvement
- Benefits from the partnership

The workforce development initiative is a partnership between FCPS Career and Technical Education program and Career Connections.

6. Bruce Oliver Educator Leadership Award (Individual)

This can be an FCPS employee who is involved in partnerships. The following key points should be considered when nominating an individual.

- Actively displays commitment to partnerships
- Displays active leadership by addressing problems proactively and allows the partners to engage in the solution
- Shows creativity by supporting new initiatives
- Demonstrates through actions that partnerships are a FCPS priority

7. Bruce Oliver Business Leadership Award (Individual)

This is a business executive or coordinator who works directly with the school partnerships. The following key points should be considered when nominating an individual.

- Shows commitment by getting executive support
- Displays active leadership by addressing problems and concerns proactively and involves the entire organization in the solution
- Shows creativity by supporting new initiatives
- Partnerships are a priority for the company

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These awards relate directly to the Board of Supervisors' Priorities that address community needs that improve the quality of life in Fairfax County. The priorities adopted by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors are as follows:

- **A Quality Education System** All nominees for this category should apply for one of the Fairfax County Public Schools awards
- **Safe Streets and Neighborhoods** Efforts to make community safer through public safety, prevention programs and emergency preparedness
- **A Clean, Sustainable Environment** Efforts to protect water sources, encourage energy efficiency and sustainability, and protect and preserve open space
- **Livable, Caring and Affordable Communities** Efforts to encourage affordable housing, provide efficient human services, protect lower density neighborhoods, encourage participation in community organizations that address community needs and opportunities
- **A Vibrant Economy** Efforts to pursue economic development and revitalization, promote workforce development, respond to other business needs or concerns
- **Efficient Transportation Network** Efforts to improve transportation that include bicycle, pedestrian, bus and other mass transit, as well as road and intersection improvements
- **Recreational and Cultural Opportunities** Efforts to provide athletic, artistic, intellectual and recreational opportunities in communities, parks and schools

The following criteria must be addressed for all nomination categories:

- Contribution addresses one or more identified Fairfax County priorities
- Partnership includes a Fairfax County agency
- Partner/partnership has produced leveraged value of new resources (dollars, goods, services, space, services) resulting in a positive return on investment for our community
- Length of involvement
- Value of Contribution must be clearly indicated :
 - Dollar value of financial or in-kind contributions.
 - Examples of improved visibility and increased community awareness
 - Achievement of increased efficiencies or cost savings to county/community

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The following award categories are offered:

1. **Small Business Resource Champion** This is for a for-profit business whose financial and/or in-kind contributions have made a significant impact to a county program, agency or public-private partnership that addresses an identified priority
2. **Large Business Resource Champion** This is for a for-profit business whose financial and/or in-kind contributions have made a significant impact to a county program, agency or public-private partnership that addresses an identified priority
3. **Pro Bono Champion** – This recognizes contribution of pro bono services to a county agency, program, or county-affiliated nonprofit organization that resulted in significant positive impact on County priority or community need
4. **Chamber of Commerce Community Connector** This recognizes contributions of a chamber of commerce (or group of chambers) that resulted in new resources (board members, pro bono services, volunteers, financial or in-kind contributions) to one or more county programs
5. **Community Resource Champion** This is for a civic organization or individual citizen whose financial and/or in-kind contributions have made a significant impact to a county program, agency or public-private partnership that addresses an identified priority
6. **Media/Communications Partner** - This award recognizes significant contributions through print, broadcast, or social media to raise awareness of the contributions of county agencies/programs and schools resulting in increased engagement to address their needs
7. **Blue Ribbon Partnership** – This award recognizes an established partnership that demonstrates the value of the public and private sector working together through sustained collaboration resulting in new resources and significant outcomes that improve the quality of life in Fairfax County. The partnership must include one or more Fairfax County agencies or departments