

Champions for Children Nomination Guidelines

Selection Committee

The Honorary Selection Committee is comprised of the previous year's NYAEYC Champions for Children and/or members of the NYAEYC Executive Committee, the Executive Director of NYAEYC and is chaired by the Champions for Children chairperson.

Eligibility Criteria

The Early Childhood Leader

- ✓ Is a current or retired early care and education professional
- ✓ Has demonstrated a commitment to leading others in the early care and education field.
- ✓ Has made substantial contributions to the field through advocacy, research, and/or the support of educators.
- ✓ **Their body of work has had an impact at the state level in New York and/or national level.**

The Early Childhood Supporter

- ✓ Is an individual or organization that has advanced the field of early care and education in New York State.
- ✓ Has influenced/improved state policy through advocacy or research.
- ✓ Has supported the advancement of the field through substantial financial contributions.

The Member Leader

- ✓ Must be a current member of NYAEYC.
- ✓ Is an individual who has dedicated time, energy and support through volunteer leadership of local initiatives and/or the local AEYC chapter.
- ✓ She/he should be active in promoting best practices for children and families in the local community.

The Student/New Professional Leader

- ✓ Is a matriculated student in an undergraduate or graduate early childhood education or child development program. Or is a new early childhood professional who has been in the field less than 3 years
- ✓ Demonstrates strong leadership potential
- ✓ Is active in efforts to improve the field of early care and education through advocacy, a research project, organizing fellow students or early childhood professionals in a formalized endeavor (e.g. Early Childhood Education club), or has taken on a leadership role in an early childhood professional organization.

Nomination

The Selection Committee, to ensure a fair and equitable selection process, relies solely on the information provided through the nominations. It should not be assumed that each member of the committee will know the nominees so it is important that the narrative provided with each nomination speaks specifically and succinctly to the breadth and depth of the nominees work and the impact of their contributions. ***We recognize that tens of thousands of early educators make a significant impact within their respective programs each and every day. The NYAEYC Champions for Children celebration endeavors to highlight this important work, by honoring those selected whose work has had an impact statewide or on their local community.***

- ✓ Please read the eligibility criteria carefully, and speak to how your nominee has met the criteria in your narrative
- ✓ All nominations must include the completed 2024 Champions for Children nomination form
- ✓ A 700-1000 word narrative that describes briefly your relationship to the nominee, a detailed description of the nominee's most significant contributions to the field of early care and education and that demonstrates how they meet the criteria for the category which they are nominated.
- ✓ The nominee's curriculum vitae or resume (for individual nominees)
- ✓ One additional letter from a colleague or person who can attest to the nominee's work/contributions and the impact they have had. (recommended, not required)

Selection Process and Timeline

- ✓ Nomination Period ~ through January 19th
- ✓ Additional Information ~ By February 16th
 - ❖ We will contact those that have nominated individuals in the event there is information missing or if the selection committee requires additional information to make an informed decision.
- ✓ Selection Committee Meets ~ by February 23rd
- ✓ 2024 Champions for Children Awardees Notified ~ by March 1st