

2021 YOUNG PEOPLE OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Applications Due: Thursday, September 30, 2021

The Young People of Achievement Awards recognize Alaskan youth, ages 16-18, who have overcome major obstacles in their lives, and who have made efforts toward fulfilling the mission of the YWCA: *to eliminate racism, empower women and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.*

Nomination Criteria:

The nominee must:

- ◆ Be 16-18 years of age
- ◆ Live in the state of Alaska
- ◆ Have faced one or more major obstacles in their life
- ◆ Have made efforts to fulfilling the YWCA's mission of eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.

Honoree Package:

Selected youth will be celebrated with the following award package:

- ◆ Cash award
- ◆ Public recognition during the Women of Achievement & Youth Awards Week in early November 2021.
- ◆ Up to 2 hours of free financial and career consultation—courtesy of the YWCA Women's Economic Empowerment. This can include assistance with college or scholarship applications, resume or cover letter writing, interview skills, budgeting, saving, understanding debt and credit, or career planning.

Application Process:

Attached is the Application form, which is also available on our website, www.ywcaak.org. Application packets must be complete and submitted via email, delivered, or received in the mail by **on Thursday, September 30, 2021.**

It may be emailed to jlavoie@alaskacf.org (preferred), hand delivered between the hours of 9 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday, or mailed to: YWCA Alaska: YPOA Selection Committee, 3400 Spenard Road Suite 200, Anchorage, AK 99503.

Questions? Please contact Jessie Lavoie at 907-249-6616 or jlavoie@alaskacf.org.

2021 Young People of Achievement Awards Application Form

Please complete all information requested below. Please type or print clearly.

Name of Applicant: _____

Age: _____ Birth Date: _____ Grade: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

School: _____ Race/Ethnicity: _____

Please submit the following items with your application packet:

- Application Form (this form)
- One letter of recommendation from an adult willing to be a reference (this can include a letter from past or current employers, school staff, program staff, clergy, or any others in the community that you feel are applicable). You may use the Young People of Achievement Letter of Recommendation form below or attach a separate document to your application.

Three Short Essays:

- A short biography (one-page maximum). Please be sure to include your volunteer experience, interests, and hobbies.
- Respond in at least two paragraphs to the following question: *What obstacle(s) in your life has been the most challenging, and how did you overcome it/them?*
- Respond in at least two paragraphs to the following question: *What have you personally done towards fulfilling one or more components of the mission of the YWCA, which is to eliminate racism, empower women and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all?*

A completed packet, including all items on the checklist above, must be received by the YWCA Alaska office by on Thursday, September 30, 2021.

Young People of Achievement Letter of Recommendation

Applicant Name: _____ How long have you known the Applicant? _____

How do you know the Applicant? _____

Name: _____ Position: _____

Address: _____

Contact Phone: _____

As part of your reference for the Applicant, please include why you believe s/he should be a Young Person of Achievement. Include, if known, how s/he has overcome obstacles in her/his life and/or how s/he is personally working to eliminate racism and empower women. **Please limit your recommendation to no more than one page.**

Signature: _____ Date: _____