

Northern Illinois University Black Alumni Council Outstanding Alumni Award

Award overview and purpose

The Outstanding Alumni Award program was established in 2001 to honor outstanding Northern Illinois University (NIU) Black Alumni. Those nominated for the award each year are recognized for their achievements at the NIU Black Alumni Gala. From the group of nominees, no more than 3 alumni are selected to be the recipients based on their extraordinary accomplishments and contributions to the Black and NIU communities.

Nomination Criteria

Please note that the purpose of the nomination criteria is to encourage participation and align with the NIU's vision and values. Nominees need not meet all the criteria, but please identify **at least three** (3) that apply to the candidate. Nominees should provide extraordinary service above and beyond the norm and demonstrate NIU's values of **integrity, diversity, excellence, collaboration, innovation** and **respect** by:

- Providing superior sustained service or a special one-time contribution to vision and/or values of the university
- Continually contributing to a **respectful, diverse** and **collaborative** business or volunteer environment
- Exhibiting exceptional **resourcefulness, innovation** or **creativity**
- Exemplifying **excellence** and **integrity** in relationships, interactions, and decision-making

There are four categories of awards:

- Business (Private business(es), Corporate America)
- Community Service (Non-for-profit, church, community activist, mentoring)
- Arts (Music, theatre, cinema, painters/sculptors)
- Public Service (Policeman, doctors, attorneys)

Eligibility

The NIUBAC Outstanding Alumni Award is open to all NIU Black alumni who had at least 60 credit hours at NIU. The Nominator must also be an NIU Black alumnus who had at least 60 credit hours at NIU. Self-nominations are acceptable.

Nomination Process

Nominators must complete the attached application including both the Nominator and Nominee's information, the category for which they are nominating, and an essay on why this person is deserving of a nomination using the criteria mentioned above. Please keep in mind that the committee seeks concrete examples of the candidate's exceptional accomplishment. Tell us why this particular alumni shines. There is a minimum of 100 words.

Selection process

The NIUBAC Outstanding Alumni Award committee is made up of five (5) NIUBAC members that represent a variety of professions and make up a diverse and well-rounded group. The committee begins reviewing the nomination submissions shortly after the submission deadline and carefully considers each nominee according to the award criteria. The review process is confidential and there will be no interviewing of nominees.

Selection of the award recipients (no more than three) will be completed in late March and awardees will be notified by April 1, 2009. Each award recipient will be given two (2) free tickets to attend the NIU Black Alumni Gala and receive their plaque.

Nomination Deadline

The final deadline for nomination submission is **March 1, 2009**.

All applications and supporting documentation must be submitted to:

NIU Black Alumni Council/Outstanding Black Alumni Nomination

c/o NIU Alumni Association

*Attention: **Julie Jancius***

231 N. Annie Glidden Rd.

Northern Illinois University

DeKalb, IL 60115

If you should have any questions, please contact **Michael Patrick** at (312) 782-9095.

Awards ceremony

The NIU Black Alumni Gala will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2009, from 6-11pm, at the South Shore Cultural Center, 7059 S. South Shore Drive, Chicago, IL. There will be a program honoring the Fanny Ruth Patterson Scholarship Award and each award recipient for the NIUBAC Outstanding Alumni Award.

If you are interested in attending the Gala, go to the NIU website, register, and purchase your ticket(s). Last day to purchase tickets online will be **Friday, April 10, 2009**. Tickets will also be available for purchase at the door. The NIU community is cordially invited to attend. We hope you will join us.

Northern Illinois University Black Alumni Council Outstanding Alumni Award Nomination Form

All fields require a reply.

Part I: Nominator Information	
First Name	
Last Name	
Address	
City/State/Zip	
Phone number	
Email address	
Years attended NIU	
Number of hours earned at NIU	
Part II: Nominee Information	
First Name	
Last Name	
Address	
City/State/Zip	
Phone number	
Email address	
Years attended NIU	
Number of hours earned at NIU	
Job Title	
Business Name	
Address	
City/State/Zip	
Phone number	
Part III: Nomination Information	
Category (choose only one):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts Business Community Service Public Service
Part IV: Essay (100 word minimum)	
<p>Award decisions are based heavily on the details you provide in a nomination essay. Please tell us about this person and why you feel he/she is deserving of a nomination using the Nomination Criteria. Attach your essay to this application.</p>	
Part IV: Informed Consent	
<p>I, _____, understand that this application for the Outstanding Black Alumni Award does not guarantee an award. My application and supporting information will be reviewed by an award committee and I will be notified by email/phone/US Postal mail of their decision to award or deny. I understand that all awards will be distributed at the NIUBAC Scholarship Awards Gala. The NIU Black Alumni Council reserves the right to make the final decision on awards.</p>	
<p>Signature _____ Date _____</p>	