

Barry University | CCSI

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AWARDS

Celebrating community-engaged learning, teaching, service, and scholarship

PURPOSE

Community engagement is defined as “collaboration between institutions of higher education and their larger communities (local, regional/state, national, global) for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity” (Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching). The primary purpose of the Awards is to publicly recognize students, faculty, staff/administrators, departments, and community partners for their participation, contributions, and achievements in various areas of community engagement. Additionally, each award is designed to encourage excellence and to inspire similar achievements by others.

Each award takes the form of a plaque. A perpetual plaque honoring the winners of the Engaged Department Award is displayed in the Center for Community Service Initiatives, Thompson 211.

All winners are potential nominees for local and national awards. In particular, a Community Impact Award winner—usually a student in the freshman, sophomore, or junior class—is nominated for Campus Compact’s Newman Civic Fellowship each year. Also, at least one faculty member is usually nominated for the annual Changemaking Education Award organized by the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida.

CATEGORIES AND CRITERIA (SUMMARY)

Community Impact Award

Presented to individual students and student organizations for exemplary civic engagement—including service, research, and advocacy—that has a measurable impact on the community. It is important to note that a semester-long or other short-term effort, however admirable, may not be enough to meet the award criteria. Individual winners (current or previous) who are freshmen, sophomores, and juniors are eligible for selection by the University President as Barry’s nominee for Campus Compact’s Newman Civic Fellowship.

Community Partnership Award

Recognizes exemplary partnerships between University and community constituencies that produce measurable improvements in people’s lives while enhancing higher education. Special consideration is given to partnerships that aim to achieve the systems and policy changes needed to address the root causes of social, economic, health, and environmental disparities in the community. The award is presented to community partners.

Community-Based Research Award	Recognizes scholars (faculty and/or students) who conduct rigorous research with community partners in response to community concerns, issues, or needs.
Community-Engaged Scholarship Award	Recognizes faculty members for significant scholarly work across the faculty roles of teaching, research, and service—including related publications and presentations—that addresses community issues.
Community Engagement Educator Award	Honors an employee for significant contributions to the institutionalization or enhancement of community engagement at Barry University. Winners of this award are faculty members, staff members, or administrators who have promoted institutional commitment to community engagement, contributed to campus–community partnerships, and supported students and colleagues in community engagement activities.
Service-Learning Faculty Award	Recognizes faculty members for exemplary integration of community service into the curriculum or for demonstrating excellence in using service-learning as a teaching and learning strategy. Instructors of designated service-learning courses are prime candidates for this award.
Engaged Department Award	Presented to a department (within a division, college, or school) for achievements in advancing the community engagement goals of the University, educating students for civic and social responsibility, and improving community life. Departments in which faculty and staff members engage in significant community/public service, individually or collectively with students, are prime candidates for this award.
Details of each award are on pages 3–10.	
Tenth Annual Community Engagement Awards SCHEDULE	
■ Call for Nominations:	Nominations accepted at any time before the deadline
■ Nomination Deadline:	Last Friday of January (01/26/2024)
■ Awards Ceremony:	First Wednesday of April (04/03/2024), 12:30 p.m. (tentative)

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Community Impact Award (for Individual Students and Student Clubs/Organizations)

The Community Impact Award is presented to students for exemplary civic engagement—including service, research, and/or advocacy—that has a measurable impact on the community. It is important to note that a semester-long or other short-term effort, however admirable, may not be enough to meet the award criteria. Individual winners (current or previous) who are freshmen, sophomores, and juniors are eligible for selection by the University President as Barry’s nominee for Campus Compact’s Newman Civic Fellowship, which “recognizes and supports community-committed students who have demonstrated an investment in finding solutions for challenges facing communities throughout the country.”

Eligibility

Nominees and applicants must be full-time undergraduate or graduate students and clubs/organizations in good standing at Barry University.

Criteria

- An innovative approach to developing or enhancing University efforts to address community issues and needs
- Diverse forms of engagement such as community service (volunteer work), service-learning, community-focused internships and field placements, advocacy, activism, and civic leadership
- Clear demonstration of civic leadership skills and the ability to inspire other students and/or members of the community
- Promise of sustainability through efforts to build initiatives into the University’s programs and structure
- Tangible evidence of impact on campus and/or community (e.g., number of volunteers recruited, amount of money raised, number of in-kind donations, number of community residents who benefited from the project)

Requirements

1. Nomination Form (completed)
2. Individual’s Resume **or** 200-word Profile of Club/Organization
3. Statement in 300–500 words describing how the nominee has met the criteria for the award (which *may* be written by the nominator or nominee)
4. Two letters of support—one of which *must* be from a community partner

Other documents such as news clippings, journal articles, photos, and brochures may be submitted in support of the nomination.

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Community Partnership Award

The Community Partnership Award recognizes exemplary partnerships between University and community constituencies that produce measurable improvements in people's lives while enhancing higher education. Special consideration will be given to partnerships that aim to achieve the systems and policy changes needed to address the root causes of social, economic, health, and environmental disparities in the community. The award is presented to community partners.

Eligibility

All partnerships between the University (faculty/staff and students) and the wider community (agencies, organizations, institutions) that are aligned with the University's Mission and Core Commitments will be considered. However, partnerships registered with the CCSI will be given special consideration.

Criteria

- Evidence of mutually beneficial collaboration between the community entity and the University (faculty/staff and students)
- Community partner's involvement in program/project development, teaching/learning process, and/or research with the University
- Measurable impact on the community organization, its clients, and/or residents (e.g., new services, increased capacity to serve clients, improved community facilities; increased economic opportunity)
- Potential or demonstrated sustainability of partnership

Requirements

1. Nomination Form (completed)
2. 200-word Profile of Organization
3. Statement in 1,000–1,200 words describing how the nominee has met the criteria for the award
The statement should highlight outcomes of community engagement for the University, the community partner, and especially for wider community.
4. Two letters of support—one from a student, the other from a Barry faculty or staff member

Other documents such as news clippings, journal articles, photos, and brochures may be submitted in support of the nomination.

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Community-Based Research Award

The Community-Based Research (CBR) Award is presented to research teams – composed of students, faculty/staff members, and community partners—for conducting rigorous research that addresses community concerns, issues, or needs.

Eligibility

The research team must include undergraduate or graduate students, or both.

Criteria

- Clear link between community-defined priorities and the research focus and approach.
- Innovative approaches that show adherence to the principles of CBR (i.e., campus–community collaboration, social action/social change to achieve social justice, validation of multiple sources of knowledge, promotion of multiple methods of discovery and dissemination of knowledge produced)
- Research process that collaboratively involves all stakeholders—faculty, students, and community partners
- Demonstrable outcomes for community partners and/or the community at large

Requirements

1. Nomination Form (completed)
2. Curriculum Vitae
3. Statement (400–600 words) describing how the nominee has met the criteria for the award
4. Letter of support from a community partner
5. Publication and/or presentation samples that illustrate the quality of the research

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Community-Engaged Scholarship Award

The Community-Engaged Scholarship Award recognizes faculty members for significant scholarly work across the faculty roles of teaching, research, and service—including related publications and presentations—that addresses community issues.

Eligibility

Nominations or applications will be accepted only from full-time faculty.

Criteria

- Completion of engaged research projects that adhere to accepted criteria (i.e., goals/questions; context of theory, literature, “best practices”; methods; results; communication/dissemination; reflective critique)*
- The extent to which the research is of benefit to the community, is visible and shared with stakeholders, and reflects the mission of the University
- Evidence of dissemination; number and variety of presentations and/or publications
- Value of the research to the broad field of service-learning and civic engagement

Requirements

1. Nomination Form (completed)
2. Curriculum Vitae
3. Statement (400–600 words) describing how the nominee has met the criteria for the award
4. Letter of support from a community partner
5. Publication and/or presentation samples that illustrate the quality of the scholarship

* Please see “Evaluating Engaged Scholarship” on page 7.

Evaluating Engaged Scholarship

Goals/Questions

- Does the scholar state the basic purpose of the work and its value for public good?
- Is there an “academic fit” with the scholar’s role, and departmental and university mission?
- Does the scholar define objectives that are realistic and achievable?
- Does the scholar identify intellectual and significant questions in the discipline and in the community?

Context of theory, literature, “best practices”

- Does the scholar show an understanding of relevant existing scholarship?
- Does the scholar bring the necessary skills to the collaboration?
- Does the scholar make significant contributions to the work?
- Is the work intellectually compelling?

Methods

- Does the scholar use methods appropriate to the goals, questions, and context of the work?
- Does the scholar describe rationale for selection of methods in relation to context and issue?
- Does the scholar effectively apply the methods selected?
- Does the scholar modify procedures in response to changing circumstances?

Results

- Does the scholar achieve the goals?
- Does the scholar’s work add consequentially to the discipline and to the community?
- Does the scholar’s work open additional areas for further exploration and collaboration?
- Does the scholar’s work achieve impact or change? Are those outcomes evaluated? If so, by whom?
- Does the scholar’s work make a contribution consistent with the purpose of the work over time?

Communication/Dissemination

- Does the scholar use a suitable style and effective organization to present the work?
- Does the scholar communicate/disseminate to appropriate academic and public audiences consistent with the mission of the institution?
- Does the scholar use appropriate forums for communicating work to the intended audience?
- Does the scholar present information with clarity and integrity?

Reflective Critique

- Does the scholar critically evaluate the work?
- What are the sources of evidence informing the critique?
- Does the scholar bring an appropriate breadth of evidence to the critique?
- In what way has the community perspective informed the critique?
- Does the scholar use evaluation to learn from the work and to direct future work?
- Is the scholar involved in a local, state, or national dialogue related to the work?

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Community Engagement Educator Award

The Community Engagement Educator Award honors an employee for significant contributions to the institutionalization or enhancement of community engagement at Barry University. The winner of this award will be a faculty member, staff member, or administrator who has promoted institutional commitment to community engagement; contributed to campus–community partnerships; and supported students and colleagues in community engagement activities.

Eligibility

Any full-time administrator, staff member, or faculty member may be nominated or may apply.

Criteria

- Exceptional role in building institutional commitment to service-learning and civic engagement
- Contributions to the development and sustainability of reciprocal partnerships
- Evidence of success in fostering and sustaining student involvement
- Leadership in advancing students' civic learning
- Demonstrable impact of engagement on students and the community

Requirements

1. Nomination Form (completed)
2. Curriculum Vitae
3. Statement (400–600 words) describing how the nominee has met the criteria for the award
4. Three letters of support—one each from a student, faculty/staff member, and community partner

Other documents such as syllabi, program outlines, news clippings, journal articles, photos, and brochures may be submitted in support of the nomination.

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Service-Learning Faculty Award

The Service-Learning Faculty Award recognizes faculty members for exemplary integration of community service into the curriculum or for demonstrating excellence in using service-learning as a teaching and learning strategy. Instructors of designated service-learning courses are prime candidates for this award.

Eligibility

Nominations or applications will be accepted only from both full-time and part-time faculty (including adjunct professors).

Criteria

- Teaching of service-learning courses in which the coursework was directly and deliberately connected to the community-based service or community-focused assignment
- Evidence of involvement of community partners in the development and/or delivery as well as the assessment of the course or its service-learning component
- Documented achievement of both academic and civic outcomes (e.g., evaluations from other faculty, students, and/or site supervisors; anonymous student reflection samples; testimonials and empirical data on project outcomes)

Requirements

1. Nomination Form (completed)
2. Curriculum Vitae
3. Syllabus
4. Two letters of support—one from a student, the other from a community partner
5. Statement (400-600 words) describing how the nominee has met the criteria for the award:

The statement should mention the nominee's philosophy of teaching and summarize his/her service-learning experiences.

Other documents such as news clippings, articles, photos, and brochures may be submitted, preferably as a single file.

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Engaged Department Award

The Engaged Department Award is presented to a department (within a division, college, or school) for achievements in advancing the community engagement goals of the University, educating students for civic and social responsibility, and improving community life. Departments in which faculty and staff members engage in significant community service individually or collectively with students are prime candidates for this award.

Eligibility

Nominees and applicants may be any Department of the University.

Criteria

- Allocation of resources to curricular/programmatic initiatives that engage the community in efforts to fulfill the University's commitment to social justice through collaborative service
- A demonstrated commitment to offering courses with community-based or community-engaged components (e.g., service-learning, community-based research, community-focused internships)
- Encouragement of faculty—through professional development and incentives/rewards—to use community-engaged teaching methods, and/or coordinate community-based projects, and/or pursue applied research that benefits the larger community
- Evidence of the impact of community engagement on students and the community

Requirements

1. Nomination Form (completed)
2. 300-word Profile of Department
3. Statement (1,000–1,200 words) describing how the nominee has met the criteria for the award:

The statement should highlight specific outcomes of community engagement for the wider community, the Department (students, faculty, staff), and the University.

Other documents such as course descriptions, news clippings, journal articles, photos, brochures, and testimonials may be submitted in support of the nomination.