



QUOTA INTERNATIONAL'S Community Champion A · W · A · R · D

About the Award

Quota International's Community Champion Award honors deaf individuals around the world whose accomplishments have made their communities better places to live and have advanced the equality, dignity and independence of deaf people through their example. Award winners are inspiring role models for both deaf and hearing individuals alike. They are people who meet the challenges of daily life head-on while still finding the time to volunteer their skills and talents to help others.

Each year Quota clubs in 13 countries worldwide are encouraged to choose one Community Champion Award winner in their community. The goal of the award, in addition to honoring an outstanding deaf individual, is to help Quota members and members of their community develop positive and constructive attitudes toward and increase the understanding of deaf persons.

Selection Process

A Quota Club may select a Community Champion Award recipient using the Nominee Information Form provided as a guideline. The form asks for a description of the nominee's current and/or past achievement in community service and the nominee's impact on the community in addition to background on the nominee's hearing loss. Clubs may adapt this form to their own requirements, adding their nomination deadlines, contact information or other important information.

Clubs set their own guidelines for how eligible individuals in their communities may be nominated and how an award winner is selected. A club member may seek out a worthy nominee and complete a nomination form for the nominee. Or, club members may choose to distribute nomination forms and criteria throughout the community and ask for nomination forms to be submitted to the club by a certain date. A club may even want to announce through local media that nominations for the award are being accepted. Or, a club could contact organizations that work with deaf individuals to solicit applications. For selection of the award winner, Quota International recommends that the local Quota club appoint a committee of members to review nomination forms and make a recommendation to all club members as to the award recipient.

Some districts choose a Community Champion Award winner from the club honorees in their district. Check with your governor to see if you may submit your Community Champion award winner to be considered for district recognition.

(see next page)

Presenting the Award

Quota International will provide an award certificate and letter of congratulations to each club for their award winner upon notification of the award recipient. Clubs must mail or fax the nominee's name and address with club name and contact information to the Quota International Office. A certificate and letter of congratulations will be forwarded within three weeks.

All clubs are encouraged to hold a special event to present the award and invite community leaders and leaders in the hearing and speech field. The club may choose to give a donation to the award recipient's community service project in his/her name at that event. In addition to honoring the award recipient, the event's program could have a speaker or an educational component on a hearing health-related topic. The event could be a fundraiser for a hearing or speech project or for the award recipient's community service project. At the very least, clubs are encouraged to invite the award recipient to a club meeting to receive the award and to speak to club members.

Educating Quotarians and the Community

Quota clubs are encouraged to take advantage of the Community Champion Award as a year-long opportunity to educate club and community members about deafness. Club members could ask their award winner to speak at a club meeting about deafness, and how their club can become more involved in raising awareness of hearing loss challenges. Clubs are also encouraged to arrange for their award recipient to speak to other Quota clubs in their district or to other community organizations or schools, either about hearing loss or about the awardee's community service.

When announcing to the media that the club is accepting nominations for the award, club members may wish to include with the nomination criteria a fact sheet about Quota and the club's hearing and speech service work. And, when publicizing the recipient of the award, club members are encouraged to contact local newspapers, television and radio stations to set-up interviews with their award winner to educate the community about how deafness has impacted their personal life and how they have adapted. Club members may also wish to announce their award winner in conjunction with other hearing and speech activities the club is involved in such as a deaf awareness day, week or month.

District and Area Awards

Each Quota District Governor may choose to have clubs in her district submit their Community Champion Award winner for recognition at the district level. Governors may choose to recognize one or more outstanding award winners at a district event or in a district publication. Areas may also choose to honor one or more Community Champion Award winners at the area level. District Governors and Area Directors will be responsible for communicating to clubs in their District/Area when they will be honoring award winners.

Quota International staff and board members may choose to recognize one or more Community Champion Award winners that we learn about at a future event or in a Quota International publication. ■

Quota International Community Champion Award

Nominee Information Form

Deadline for Nominee Submissions _____
Quota Club of _____
Club Contact Name, Address and Phone Number _____

Name of Nominee _____

Address _____

City/State/Province/Zip Code/Country _____

Daytime Phone Number _____ Evening Phone Number _____

Occupation/Job Title/Employer's Name _____

Please answer the following questions on additional paper:

1. Award nominees are deaf individuals around the world whose accomplishments have made their communities better places to live and have advanced the equality, dignity and independence of deaf people through their example. Please attach **up to** a two-page narrative providing a description of the nominee's current/and or past achievements in serving the community. (You may attach up to five pages of supporting material about the nominee, including letters of recommendation, articles, etc.)
2. What has been the nominee's impact in the community? What can deaf and hearing individuals alike learn from the nominee?
3. Please describe the nominee's hearing loss. Please list the cause, date of onset and extent of the nominee's hearing loss; and how the nominee adapted to his/her hearing loss.