



2026 Ten Outstanding Young Americans Nomination Form

Overview

The Ten Outstanding Young Americans (TOYA) program serves to recognize up to ten individuals between the ages of 18 and 40 who exemplify the best attributes of the nation's young people. Nominations are received in each of the ten categories listed below.

Honorees selected in past years have represented the heights of progress in all human endeavors. Many have gone on to even greater achievements. All have continued to serve humanity in a great variety of ways.

JCI USA will honor the Ten Outstanding Young Americans each year at the TOYA Ceremony during the JCI USA National Meeting held in September/October. The ceremony will highlight each winner's career in narrative form and provide a stage from which the honorees can challenge and inspire young people from around the world. For each honoree, there will be a video presentation profiling his or her accomplishments, followed by the trophy presentation, and an acceptance speech.

2026 Banquet and Ceremony
September 12, 2026
Virginia Beach, VA

Young men and women may be nominated in one of the following ten categories for the TOYA honor. A national panel of distinguished judges will select honorees. Up to ten top honorees will be selected from all nominations received, regardless of the category entered.

Nomination Categories:

1. Business, economic, and/or entrepreneurial accomplishment
2. Political, legal, and/or governmental affairs
3. Academic leadership and/or accomplishment
4. Cultural achievement
5. Moral and/or environmental leadership
6. Contribution to children, world peace, and/or human rights
7. Humanitarian and/or voluntary leadership
8. Scientific and/or technological development
9. Personal improvement and/or accomplishment
10. Medical innovation

JCI USA will provide each TOYA Honoree:

- Two complimentary TOYA Banquet and Ceremony tickets
- Single-room hotel accommodations for up to 3 days / 2 nights

- One domestic economy airline ticket to the JCI USA National Meeting

Program Rules:

- Nominees must be between the ages of 18 and 40 on the date of the ceremony.
- The nominee must be a native-born or naturalized citizen of the United States or must have applied for citizenship by January 1 of the preceding year.
- The nominee may not be a current member of the JCI Board of Directors at the international, national, State or local levels.
- The nominee may not be a paid staff member of JCI USA.
- The nominee must be entered in one of the ten categories listed on this form. Each nominee may be nominated in only one category.

- The nominee or nominee's official representative (e.g. agent, publicist, or staff person) must sign the official nomination form attesting to all facts contained in the form and granting permission for publication of these facts.
- By signing this form, the nominee also indicates willingness to attend the TOYA Awards Ceremony on September 12, 2026, barring extreme circumstances.
- By signing this form, the nominee (or official representative) agrees that if selected as an honoree, to communicate with TOYA Program Managers and provide information for the awards ceremony.
- Nomination forms must be received by **April 30, 2026** either by this form or the online nomination form located at www.jciusa.org/toya-nomination-form.
- All questions on the nomination form MUST be answered. Incomplete nomination forms are subject to disqualification.
- Nomination forms will only be accepted in English.
- Nominations should include a high resolution headshot, ten (10) additional photos of the nominee representative of their nomination, a brief (60 second) video accepting the nomination, and a biography of the nominee. While these will not be used in judging, they are required for nominees who are selected.
- Nominees must be willing to promote the ideals of JCI USA for the year after winning the award.
- Nominees must be willing to allow JCI USA to use their name, image, and submission information in current and/or future communication and promotion of the TOYA program.
- All information must be contained on the pages of this official form. No unsolicited attachments of any kind are allowed. Scrapbooks, audiotapes, etc. CANNOT be used in the judging process. If a candidate is selected as one of the honorees, however, these items may be requested by JCI USA at a later date.

This nomination form is only valid for 2026 TOYA Program consideration. To receive an updated nomination form, please email toya@jciusa.org.

Nomination Form

Nomination Category _____

Nominee's First / Given Name _____

Nominee's Last / Family Name _____

Title _____ Date of Birth _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State ZIP _____

Nominee's Primary Phone _____ Alternate Phone _____

Is the nominee a US Citizen? _____

Describe the nominee's education, including degrees earned, academic honors, etc.

Limit 3,000 characters

List important published works and a brief description of each.

Limit 3,000 characters

Occupation or Profession _____

Outline the timeline of the nominee's career or field of activity.

Limit 9,000 characters

Describe the exceptional achievements of the nominee, and/or the challenges overcome to achieve them.

Limit 3,000 characters

List important awards and honors the nominee received that illustrate his/her achievements. Include a brief description of each.

Limit 3,000 characters

List any quotes from colleagues that illustrate the achievements and beliefs of the nominee.

Limit 3,000 characters

Explain how the nominee exemplifies the principle expressed in the following line of the Jaycee Creed, "That service to humanity is the best work of life."

Limit 3,000 characters

In your own words, why do you believe that the nominee should be selected as one of this year's Ten Outstanding Young Americans?

Limit 3,000 characters

THE FOLLOWING SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE NOMINEE OR NOMINEE REPRESENTATIVE (such as an agent, family member, or staff person of the nominee)

I attest to all the facts contained in my nomination form and give permission for the facts to be used for publication. If selected as a TOYA Honoree, I understand that barring extreme circumstances, I am required to be present for the TOYA Ceremony and activities at this year's JCI USA National Meeting to be held September 25-27, 2025. If circumstances prevent my attendance, I must present the conditions to the President of JCI USA for a decision on the continued eligibility for my nomination. I agree to promote the ideals of JCI USA for the year after receiving the award. I also agree that JCI USA has permission to use my name, image, and submission information in current and/or future communications and promotion of the TOYA program.

Signature of Nominee or Representative

Date

Printed Name

Relationship to Nominee (if nominee, indicate "self")

THE FOLLOWING SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE NOMINATOR:

Nominator's Name _____

Nominator's Email _____

Nominator's Phone _____

Is this nomination on behalf of a JCI organization? _____

If yes, for which state and organization? _____

If yes, who is your state president? _____

I affirm that the information provided on this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false statements or omissions may result in disqualification per the rules of this program.

Signature of Nominator

Date

Printed Name