



2014

IRMA ALMIRALL-PADAMSEE LA FUERZA COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT AWARD

The annual La Fuerza Community Enhancement Award was established in April of 1994. During the 2002 award ceremony it was renamed after its founder Irma Almirall-Padamsee, former Associate Dean of Student Relations/Director Office of Multicultural Affairs at Syracuse University. Irma Almirall-Padamsee conceived the award to recognize the graduates who were dedicated to bridging communication among the many diverse groups of Syracuse University.

The Irma Almirall-Padamsee La Fuerza Community Enhancement Award is in recognition of exemplary individuals for their outstanding contributions and commitment to diversity. These individuals have used their energy, spirit and leadership in initiating and implementing actions that help our campus community to create dialogue among people from diverse cultural groups including race, socioeconomic status, sex, age, (dis) ability, sexual orientation, religion and have forged meaningful bridges across identities on the Syracuse University campus.

**2014 IRMA ALMIRALL-PADAMSEE
LA FUERZA COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT AWARD**

Nomination Criteria

Demonstrating leadership in our pluralistic society, the student each year must have acted to increase discourse on the issue of appreciation of cultural diversity and/or modeled such behavior themselves. These determined and persevering individuals must be personal risk takers and have a problem solving mentality. They must possess a strength of self which makes it impossible to stand silent when facing bigotry. In public and private ways despite what may be overwhelming odds, these students make an impact on improving sense of community by helping others to appreciate and value the richness of our diverse cultures.

Any undergraduate, graduate, or law student who expects to receive a degree in 2014 may nominate their selves or be nominated by any member of the Syracuse University community for this award.

Nomination Process

1. Nominee fills out nomination form or nominator fills out nomination form in consultation with the student, and then submits an essay that the nominee writes or the nominator can submit a letter of affirmation.
2. **Deadline** for submission of proposals is **Friday, March 14 by 5pm.**
Please send proposals electronically to Marissa L. Willingham at mlwill07@syr.edu.
3. Finalists will be notified the week of **March 24**, 2013.
4. Finalists will be interviewed the week of **March 31**, 2013.
5. Award winner(s) will be notified the week **April 7**, 2013.
6. Decisions will be announced publicly on **Thursday, April 24, 2014** at the Syracuse University Irma Almirall-Padamsee La Fuerza Community Enhancement Reception.
7. The awardee(s) name will be engraved on the Irma Almirall-Padamsee La Fuerza Community Enhancement Award Plaque housed on the walls of the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

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Nomination instructions

A nomination which is developed by nominator or nominee, and an essay or a letter of affirmation must be submitted. The nomination should include the items specified below. It is the responsibility of the nominee or nominator to insure that the nomination and an essay or a letter of affirmation is submitted by or the application will not be complete and will be disqualified.

***Nomination can be submitted by nominee or by nominator**

Step 1

If *nominee* submits nomination include:

- Name
- College/Major
- Syracuse University Identification Number
- Local Address
- Phone Number
- E-Mail address
- Resume (highlight specific accounts relating to diversity and explain in essay)
- Essay

OR

If *nominator* submits nomination include nominee's:

- Name
- College/Major
- Syracuse University Identification Number
- Local Address
- Phone Number
- E-Mail address
- Resume (highlight specific accounts relating to diversity and explain in essay)
- Letter of Affirmation

Nominator's:

- Name
- E-Mail address
- Campus Address
- Phone Number

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**Essay (*submitted by nominee*)
OR
A Letter of Affirmation (*submitted by nominator*)**

STEP 2

If *nominee* submits essay include:

- Describe how you consistently demonstrate leadership in helping the Syracuse University community appreciate cultural diversity. Please be specific.
- In what ways do you feel that you demonstrate perseverance and/or risk taking in the activities described?
- Please provide any additional comments you believe will assist the committee in choosing candidates for the Syracuse University Irma Almirall-Padamsee La Fuerza Community Enhancement Award. Please note that the purpose of this award is to acknowledge efforts that build communication across groups and is not just for students who are very active within their own racial/ethnic groups.

If *nominator* submits a letter of affirmation include:

- How long have you known this student and in what capacity?
- Describe how this student consistently demonstrates perseverance and/or risk taking in the activities described?
- In what ways do you feel this student demonstrates perseverance and/or risk taking in the activities described?
- Please provide any additional comments you believe will assist the committee in choosing candidates for the Syracuse University Irma Almirall-Padamsee La Fuerza Community Enhancement Award. Please note that the purpose of this award is to acknowledge efforts that build communication across groups and is not just for students who are very active within their own racial/ethnic groups.