



Leadership Awards Night 2024 Guidebook

**Office of Community Engagement, Office of
Leadership & Competency Development, and
Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life**

Vaughn Center, Room 215

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www.ut.edu/leadership

Thank you for your support of Leadership Awards Night 2024!

In this guidebook, you will find detailed descriptions and eligibility for each award. Please use this guidebook as a valuable tool to assist your application process.

If you have further questions about any application or the selection process, please email us at spartanleadership@ut.edu.

We look forward to receiving your applications. Thank you for your commitment to our students, faculty, and staff whose exemplary leadership positively contributes to our UT community.

Leadership Awards Night is Wednesday, April 17th, 2024.

— The 2024 Leadership Awards Night Planning
Committee



Leadership Awards Night Processes and Protocol

Leadership Awards Night is an annual university-wide event planned and implemented by the Office of Community Engagement, Office of Leadership & Competency Development, and Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life staff members and student employees.

The Advisors are the Director of Community Engagement and the Associate Director of Leadership & Competency Development. The Project Manager is the Staff Assistant of the Office of Student Leadership and Engagement.

The Leadership Awards Night Selection Committee is a secret entity consisting of nine university staff and faculty members and one UT alumni. Due to the volume of applications and awards, there are two committee meetings which will take place on the selection date. Each committee will consist of five people. The morning committee will select the organizational award winners. The afternoon committee (which includes the alumni) will select the individual award winners.

The committee is tasked with determining award recipients based on objective examination of the award criteria and the award nomination and application materials.

Award recipients that are determined by their sponsoring departments are marked with an * after the award name page 5.



Leadership Awards Night Contacts

Questions regarding Leadership Awards Night processes and protocol can be directed to:

- **spartanleadership@ut.edu**, Leadership Awards Night Planning Committee
- **Ian McGinnity**, Director, Community Engagement at imcginnity@ut.edu.
- **Nick Martinez**, Associate Director, Leadership & Competency Development at nmartinez@ut.edu.
- **Tess Aguilar**, Staff Assistant II, Office of Student Leadership and Engagement at tiaguilar@ut.edu



Table of Contents

Leadership Awards	6
Bob Ruday Outstanding First Year of Involvement.....	6
Bob Ruday Outstanding Second Year of Involvement.....	6
Bob Ruday Outstanding Third Year of Involvement.....	6
Bob Ruday Servant Leader Award.....	6
Bob Ruday Student Unsung Hero Award.....	7
Bob Ruday Spartan Award.....	7
Student Employee of the Year.....	7
Leadership & Academic Achievement Award.....	7
Excellence in Civic Engagement Award.....	8
Faculty/Staff Unsung Hero Award.....	8
Student Organizations Awards	8
Most Improved Organization of the Year.....	8
Outstanding New Organization of the Year.....	8
Outstanding Organization of the Year.....	8
The Tom Fitzgerald Most Spirited Organization of the Year.....	9
Outstanding Commitment to Diversity Award.....	9
Outstanding Innovation Award.....	9
J. Richard Piper Outstanding Advisor of the Year.....	9
Community Service Awards	10
Active Citizen Award.....	10
Student Volunteer of the Year (Non-Fraternal Affiliated).....	10
Volunteer Organization of the Year (Non-Fraternal Affiliated Organization).....	10
Joyce Keller Faculty/Staff Volunteer of the Year.....	10
Intern, Leadership, and Research Awards	10
Intern of the Year Award*.....	10
Center for Teaching and Learning Leadership Award*.....	10
OURI Researcher of the Year Award*.....	11
Sustainability Awards	11
SustainableUT Handprint Award*.....	11
SustainableUT Student Handprint Award*.....	11
SustainableUT Handprint Award for Outstanding Sustainable Practices by an Organization*.....	11
Award Nomination and Application Processes	12

Leadership Awards

Bob Ruday Outstanding First Year of Involvement

- First year student
- \$875 scholarship

Recipient must demonstrate the impact their involvement and leadership made on The University of Tampa and Tampa Bay communities.

Bob Ruday Outstanding Second Year of Involvement

- Second year student
- \$875 scholarship

Recipient must demonstrate the impact their involvement and leadership made on The University of Tampa and Tampa Bay communities.

Bob Ruday Outstanding Third Year of Involvement

- Third year student
- \$875 scholarship

Recipient must demonstrate the impact their involvement and leadership made on The University of Tampa and Tampa Bay communities.

Bob Ruday Servant Leader Award

- Fourth year or seniors graduating in 2024
- \$300 check award

The Servant Leader Award was created in honor of Bob Ruday, University of Tampa's Dean of Students from 1994-2011 who is an outstanding example of servant leadership. This award will recognize up to four seniors (graduating in May, August, or December 2024) who have exemplified the attributes of servant leadership, academic achievement, and overall involvement in campus life. Servant leaders have a true motivation to serve the needs of their group or community and are not primarily concerned with obtaining power or prestige. Servant leadership is thought of as the foundation of effective leadership because servant leaders create a culture of trust and empowerment among those they serve and lead. They focus on relationships and motivating others. Recipients of the Bob Ruday Servant Leadership Award have demonstrated growth and community building in their leadership experiences and involvement. These students have made The University of Tampa better because of their commitment to people on their team in student organizations, campus departments, or within the community. The recipient(s) of this award are ineligible to receive the Bob Ruday Spartan Award or Bob Ruday Student Unsung Hero Award.

Leadership Awards cont.

Bob Ruday Student Unsung Hero Award

- Fourth year or seniors graduating in 2024
- \$300 check award

The Award for Student Unsung Hero was created in honor of Bob Ruday, UT's Dean of Students from 1994-2011 who is an outstanding model of what it means to live by your values, respect others, and lead in a way that makes you worthy of the trust of others. The Student Unsung Hero award recognizes up to six seniors (graduating in May, August, or December 2024) who have positively influenced some area of campus life (program, organization or general student life) from behind the scenes with a positive attitude, a willingness to help in whatever capacity necessary and a commitment to excellence. Unsung heroes help to define UT. They lay the foundations, carry out the details of the event planners and enrich the culture that is UT. This award is given to ensure that the hard work of the student unsung heroes is cherished. Students cannot have served in the role as president (or the equivalent) of an organization when performing the action of unsung hero for their organization. The recipients of this award are ineligible to receive the Bob Ruday Spartan Award or Bob Ruday Servant Leader Award. "It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit." -Harry S Truman

Bob Ruday Spartan Award

- Fourth year or seniors graduating in 2024
- \$300 check award

The Bob Ruday Spartan Award was created to recognize up to ten outstanding seniors (graduating in May, August or December 2024) at UT who have exemplified school spirit and the Spartan Code through their academic achievement, leadership, enthusiasm, and overall involvement in campus life and programs at UT. Recipients must demonstrate the impact and outcomes of their involvement and leadership made on The University of Tampa and Tampa Bay communities. The recipient(s) of this award are ineligible to receive the Bob Ruday Servant Leader Award or the Bob Ruday Unsung Hero Award.

Student Employee of the Year

This award is given to a student employee who has demonstrated a commitment to excellent customer service while demonstrating knowledge of their specific job responsibilities. Nominees may be work-study or student employment, and must be full-time undergraduates.

Leadership & Academic Achievement Award

This award is given to both student organization leaders and members who successfully balance their campus involvement and academics by maintaining a minimum of a 3.5 cumulative GPA.

Leadership Awards cont.

Excellence in Civic Engagement Award

- \$200 check award

The Excellence in Civic Engagement Award was created by the ALL IN Democracy Challenge Coalition to recognize and honor a UT student who has demonstrated a commitment to voter registration, mobilization and engagement through their actions in the classroom, in their UT involvement (student organizations, fraternity or sorority, athletics, etc.) or in the Tampa Bay community.

Faculty/Staff Unsung Hero Award

An Unsung Hero is a full-time staff or faculty member at UT who goes beyond their job description to support students, they assist individual students or members of a student organization with no tangible benefits for doing so, they are there when you need them, they are cooperative and resourceful, they are approachable and trustworthy and they deserve to be recognized. Any individual in an area that provides services or support for student organization events including Catering, Facilities Management, Facilities Rental, Financial Management, Media Services, etc. is eligible for nomination.

For student organizations members, this is not your advisor. Nominations will be accepted by students, faculty, and staff.

Last year's recipients are ineligible to receive this award: Amy Cecchetti, Anayah Walker, Brittany Garcia, Carla Sykes, Isaiah Jordan, Jackie Sanchez, James Reinhardt, Jamie Schabacker, Justin Rinaldi, and Kat Schellenberg.

Student Organizations Awards

Most Improved Organization of the Year

This award is given to the organization that demonstrates an improved knowledge, understanding, and achievement of its mission statement by comparing and contrasting the activities the organization completed in the 2022-2023 academic year with the 2023-2024 academic years.

Outstanding New Organization of the Year

This award is given to the organization that demonstrates knowledge, understanding, and achievement of its mission statement (on file in the Office of Community Engagement). In order to be eligible for this award, organizations must have been newly established during the 2023-2024 school year or inactive for the entire 2022-2023 year and reactivated during the 2023-2024 school year.

Outstanding Organization of the Year

Two awards are given, one to a small organization and one to a large organization. The awards are given to the organizations that demonstrate knowledge, understanding, and achievement of its mission statement (on file in the Office of Community Engagement). Social Greek-lettered fraternities and social Greek-lettered sororities are ineligible for this award.

Consideration will be given to organizations that have given their time and effort to altruistic causes, those who have worked for the betterment of the community as well as within their own groups/ organizations.

Student Organizations Awards cont.

The Tom Fitzgerald Most Spirited Organization of the Year

This award was established to honor the memory of Tom Fitzgerald, UT's former men's soccer coach (1981-1996), who was tragically killed in a motorcycle accident. Tom led the Spartans to five Sunshine State Conference Championships and the 1994 NCAA Men's Division II Soccer Championship title. He embodied the true spirit and pride of being a Spartan.

This award will be presented to the organization that shows the most school spirit throughout the school year, including visibility and crowd involvement at all UT sporting events. This award is based on the consistent level of support that an organization shows UT athletic teams. Groups can increase their visibility at athletics events by cheering, making banners, and getting involved in athletic marketing sponsored activities during the game.

Outstanding Commitment to Diversity Award

This award will be given to the organization that has shown the strongest commitment to diversity through programming, recognition of others differences, creativity, and fostering an environment that fosters inclusion.

Outstanding Innovation Award

This award will be given to the organization that has demonstrated the most adaptability, creativity and resiliency during the 2023-2024 academic year.

J. Richard Piper Outstanding Advisor of the Year

This award recognizes a faculty or staff member who advises a Registered Student Organization (RSO). This person is actively involved in the RSO by attending meetings, assisting with finances, reviewing the Constitution, supporting the elections process, etc. They regularly communicate with the RSO president and provide strong mentorship and guidance. Students may only nominate faculty and staff members for the Faculty/Staff Advisor of the Year.

Last year's recipient is ineligible to receive this award: Dean Koutroumanis.

The following professionals who advise organizations as stated in their job responsibilities are ineligible: Tim Harding (Student Affairs), Jenn Scaia (Student Affairs), Ian McGinnity (Community Engagement), Brittany Garcia (Community Engagement), Carson Mitchell (Community Engagement), Nick Martinez (Leadership & Competency Development), Kyle Shatto (Fraternity & Sorority Life), Madi Bridges (Fraternity & Sorority Life), Addie Carothers (Wellness Services), Tiffany Nelson (Wellness Services), Abby Pertkiewicz (Wellness Services), Anayah Walker (Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion), Melanie White (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion), Joshua Pullens (Campus Recreation), and the Diplomats Advisor (Orientation and Family Engagement).

Community Service Awards

Active Citizen Award

Recipient must have demonstrated a commitment to community service by actively participating in service projects and who has demonstrated a well-rounded service experience through social change initiatives and involvement.

Joyce Keller Faculty/Staff Volunteer of the Year

The award is given to a faculty or staff member who has demonstrated a commitment to community service by actively participating in service projects. The award was named in honor of Joyce C. Keller, former Administrative Assistant in the Sykes College of Business, because of her commitment to volunteering.

Student Volunteer of the Year (Non-Fraternal Affiliated Member)

Recipient must have demonstrated a commitment to community service by actively participating in service projects. All volunteer hours must be registered and verified with the PEACE Volunteer Center before submitting this application.

Volunteer Organization of the Year (Non-Fraternal Affiliated Organization)

This award is presented by PEACE for outstanding community service. All volunteer hours have to be registered and verified with the PEACE Volunteer Center. These awards are based on the percentage of students in the organization that volunteer at each event.

Faculty Internship Committee, Center for Teaching and Learning and Office of Undergraduate Research and Inquiry Awards

Intern of the Year Award

- To be eligible for this award, you must have completed an internship in Spring, Summer, or Fall 2023.
- \$300 check award sponsored by the Office of Career Services

The Intern of the Year Award is presented to a student that has completed an internship for a minimum of 10 weeks during the Spring, Summer, or Fall 2023 semesters. Applicants will be evaluated on essay responses and the creativity and content of one PowerPoint slide. Award selection is made by the Faculty Internship Committee.

Center for Teaching and Learning Leadership Award

- \$300 check award

The Leadership Award is presented to an individual whose leadership on an activity, related activities, or an event made an impact on others in our UT or broader Tampa Bay Community. Applicants will be evaluated on the leadership qualities demonstrated, the impact their leadership had, and the Spartan Ready® skills developed. Award selection is made by the Center for Teaching and Learning.

Faculty Internship Committee, Center for Teaching and Learning and Office of Undergraduate Research and Inquiry Awards Cont.

OURI Researcher of the Year Award

- Completion of a research project with a UT faculty member
- \$300 check and award

Applicants will be evaluated on responses to questions about their research experience as well as a PowerPoint slide that visually represents their findings. Award selection is made by the Office of Undergraduate Research and Inquiry Committee.

Sustainability Awards

SustainableUT Handprint Award

- \$100 award

The SustainableUT Handprint Award was created by the UT Faculty Sustainability Committee to recognize and honor a UT faculty or staff member who has demonstrated a commitment to ethical practices that reduce the University's impact on the environment by leading or actively supporting resource conservation practices, inspiring action in support of sustainable practices, promoting sustainable development within the University community and/or the greater Tampa Bay community, and/or implementing sustainability-focused innovations.

SustainableUT Student Handprint Award

- \$100 award

The SustainableUT Student Handprint Award was created by the UT Faculty Sustainability Committee to recognize and honor a UT student who has demonstrated a commitment to ethical practices that reduce the University's impact on the environment by leading or actively supporting resource conservation practices, inspiring action in support of sustainable practices, promoting sustainable development within the University community and/or the greater Tampa Bay community, and/or implementing sustainability-focused innovations.

SustainableUT Handprint Award for Outstanding Sustainable Practices by an Organization

- \$200 award

The SustainableUT Handprint Award for Outstanding Sustainable Practices by an Organization was created by the UT Faculty Sustainability Committee to recognize and honor a UT organization or group that has demonstrated a significant improvement in their or renewed commitment to ethical practices that reduce the University's impact on the environment by leading or actively supporting resource conservation practices, inspiring action in support of sustainable practices, promoting sustainable development within the University community and/or the greater Tampa Bay community, and/or implementing sustainability-focused innovations. Award selection is made by the UT Faculty Sustainability Committee.

Award Nomination, Recommendation, and Application Processes

To be eligible to receive the awards listed in this guidebook, forms must be completed in full and submitted via InvolveUT. All forms can be found within the Leadership Awards Night group page and will open February 1, 2024.

There are three categories for five different forms: nominations, recommendations, and applications.

- Nomination forms must be completed and do not require a subsequent application by the nominees. Nomination forms **close at noon on Wednesday, February 28, 2024**.
- Recommendations are the first step of the two-part process. This form provides faculty and staff the option to recommend students to apply for select awards because they recognize their talents, passions, and contributions to the campus community. Recommended students will be sent an email encouraging them to apply. **Submission of a recommendation form does not guarantee that an individual will complete the application for an award.** The recommendation form **closes at noon on Wednesday, February 21, 2024** to ensure recommended students are allocated time to apply.
- Applications are forms for students to apply for individual and organization awards detailed in this guidebook. For Individual Award Applications, students must only complete one form for all awards they are applying for. For Organization Award Applications, only one application should be submitted per student organization. Both application forms **close at noon on Wednesday, February 28, 2024**.

A list of awards hosted on each form can be found on the following page, along with the form's respective link.

Award Nomination, Recommendation, and Application Forms cont.

Nominations Only

- Faculty/Staff Unsung Hero Award (Student, Faculty, Staff Nominations)
- Joyce Keller Faculty/Staff Volunteer of the Year (Student, Faculty, Staff Nominations)
- J. Richard Piper Outstanding Faculty/Staff Advisor of the Year (Student Nominations Only)
 - [CLICK HERE](#)
- Excellence in Civic Engagement Award (Student, Faculty, Staff Nominations)
- Sustainability Awards (Student, Faculty, Staff Nominations)
 - [CLICK HERE](#)

Recommendations for Students to Apply, Linked to Applications (Faculty and Staff Only)

- Bob Ruday Excellence in Leadership Scholarships
- Bob Ruday Servant Leader Award
- Bob Ruday Spartan Award
- Bob Ruday Student Unsung Hero Award
- Student Employee of the Year
 - [CLICK HERE](#)

Organization Award Applications (Submitted by Students Only)

- Most Improved Organization of the Year
- Outstanding New Organization of the Year
- Outstanding Organization of the Year
- The Tom Fitzgerald Most Spirited Organization of the Year
- Outstanding Commitment to Diversity Award
- Outstanding Innovation Award
- Volunteer Organization of the Year (Non-Fraternal Organization)
 - [CLICK HERE](#)

Individual Award Applications (Submitted by Students Only)

- Bob Ruday Excellence in Leadership Scholarships
- Bob Ruday Servant Leader Award
- Bob Ruday Student Unsung Hero Award
- Bob Ruday Spartan Award
- Student Employee of the Year
- Leadership & Academic Achievement Award
- Active Citizen Award
- Student Volunteer of the Year (Non-Fraternal Member)
- Intern of the Year Award
- Center for Teaching and Learning Leadership Award
- OURI Researcher of the Year Award
 - [CLICK HERE](#)