



National
Societies &
Volunteering
AWARDS

What we are looking for across all categories:

1. All categories are open to volunteering projects and societies
2. Innovation - what's new or different about your nominee(s)? They don't have to have done something completely new, but we love to see a different angle on an existing project or a new approach taken by a team
3. Impact - what difference did the group, individual, event or project make? How did it benefit the students involved and how did it benefit the cause they work on?

The Collaboration Award

Recognising those that have worked alongside others to achieve something special, The Collaboration Award celebrates students who have worked together, across different groups or teams. We know that collaboration takes work, time and dedication but can have a huge impact. We are particularly interested in new collaborations - so this is the first time you've worked together.

Examples could be, but not limited to:

- Societies working with other societies in the same institution
- Volunteering teams working with societies
- Volunteers working with local community groups
- Societies or volunteers working across multiple institutions

The Committee Excellence Award

Recognising the teamwork and achievements of a committee of a society or volunteering project. This award is for those outstanding teams who work together effectively, perhaps have overcome difficulties as a committee or have just been outstanding this year.

Examples could be, but not limited to:

- A committee changing their structures to better suit the society or project
- A new committee coming together and doing something great
- A committee focused on a specific goal and playing to individual strengths to achieve that goal

The Community Award

Recognising those individuals, societies or projects that have had positive, meaningful impact on a wider community.

For this award, 'community' could be the student community in their university or college, or could be the local, national or international community.

Examples could be, but not limited to:

- A volunteering project working with a charity in your city
- A society event for students in a particular community in your university or college
- A campaign making a difference to a national issue, such as food poverty or the refugee crisis

The Development Award

Recognising outstanding development opportunities created through student volunteering and societies. We want all volunteering and society involvement to give students chances to develop confidence, new skills and have new experiences. These will help students to grow and to achieve their full potential.

Examples could be, but not limited to:

- A society initiative focussed on skills development of their members
- A volunteering project to develop confidence of young people in the local community
- A new approach taken to society or volunteering activity to ensure the students involved have a developmental experience

The Event Award

Recognising a brilliant event organised by a society or volunteering team. This event doesn't have to be large-scale with a huge budget. We are just as interested in the smaller scale but the event has to make a difference to attendees. The winning event will show real innovation and a fantastic experience for attendees.

Examples could be, but not limited to:

- A showcase or performance
- A unique social experience for attendees, with something they couldn't access outside of the student world
- A fundraising event focused on a particular cause

The Extra Mile Award

Recognising someone that has overcome significant challenges to volunteering or society involvement. We know that thousands of students volunteer despite personal difficulties, and we want to showcase some of these students. The winning student doesn't need to have done 100s of hours volunteering but they need to have had an impact on those around them.

Examples could be, but not limited to:

- A student from a minority background who faced challenges in volunteering or society involvement
- A student who has gone through personal difficulties over the past academic year

The Opportunities for All Award

Recognising those that are engaging more students, encouraging wider participation and helping to dismantle barriers. This award is about equity, equality, inclusion, diversity and liberation work. Student groups and volunteers work to break down structural inequalities and to make their activities inclusive and we want to recognise this.

Examples could be, but not limited to:

- A particular event or project focused on reaching those who don't typically participate
- A society or volunteering group changing the way they operate to improve the diversity and accessibility of the group or society

The Wellbeing Award

Recognising those individuals, societies or projects that have championed student wellbeing. Student volunteering and societies provide a crucial space for students to feel comfortable, do what they love and make friends. We know how important this is for student wellbeing.

By 'wellbeing' we are thinking about 'the state of being comfortable, healthy, or happy' - Oxford English Dictionary.

Examples could be, but not limited to:

- A society or volunteering project purely focused on wellbeing, wellness or mental health
- A society or volunteering group taking approaches to improve volunteer and member experience
- An event focused on wellbeing or mental wellness