



Raven Award: Students Nominations Guidelines

Questions should be directed to the Raven Society Vice President, Nate Welz, at ravensociety-vicepresident@virginia.edu.

Description:

Each year, the Raven Society confers an Award to recognize excellence in service and contribution to the University of Virginia. This is the highest honor that the Society can bestow on an individual. The Award is reserved to honor students, faculty, administrators, or alumni of the University who have widely and sympathetically shared, supported, and advanced the function of this institution. Nominees need NOT be members of the Raven Society. The Award is not to be conferred solely for some exceptional attainment in some limited field of student activity, scholarship, or professional specialization.

For the nomination of students, I strongly encourage you to nominate those who fall outside of traditional models of academic success. Please consider nominating student leaders who have overcome systemic barriers, sparked change in their communities, and forged their own paths to success.

Brief description of the nomination process and deadlines:

1. Emails soliciting nominations are sent in the fall and spring.
 - a. Alumni nominations are accepted in the fall.
 - b. Student and faculty/administrator nominations are accepted in the spring.
 - c. **NOTE:** At this time, we are accepting Raven Award nominations for STUDENTS & FACULTY/ADMINISTRATORS only.
 - d. **NOTE:** These nominations are typically done without the knowledge of the nominee as is customary for all nominations processes within the Raven Society.
2. Nominees are selected for the award through a two-step process:
 - a. A selections committee consisting of Raven Society faculty, administrators, and students from each school is assembled to select the top nominees for the award.
 - b. The slate of selected nominees is shared with and approved by the rest of the Raven Society and during elections.
 - c. **NOTE:** no more than four Raven Awards are conferred on students. The Society may present any or all of the Awards.
3. **Nominations are due: Friday, February 23, 2024**
4. Selections meeting is tentatively scheduled for: Monday, February 26, 2024
5. Elections meeting is TBD

Criteria for selection of student Raven Award winner:

The criteria for student Raven Award winner, set out in the Constitution, are as follows:

- Are in their last session of work for their degrees;
- Manifested evidence of growth of scholarly interest;
- Made effective contribution to the activities constituting the life of the University.
 - Such participation and contribution includes leadership and constructive personal influence for the betterment of the morale of the institution.

These criteria are an expression of an ideal of multi-faceted excellence as a student and as a person.

Required nomination components:

- A completed online nomination form (found on the [Raven website](#))
- At least 1 letter of support (maximum of 5) detailing the candidate's qualifications (PDF)
 - This is an excellent place to provide information that is not provided in the nomination form or to further expand on the items that are included. Simply repeating the information included in the nomination form does not help the selections committee gain a fuller understanding of who your nominee is.
 - Please note that fewer letters with more supporters' co-signatures is preferred to many letters written by individual supporters.
 - The letter is to be submitted as an attachment through the aforementioned online nomination form.
- Nominee's CV or resume (PDF)
 - We understand that obtaining an updated CV of a nominee without their knowledge of the nomination can be difficult. We encourage reaching out to colleagues or friends of the nominee when possible. If you experience difficulties obtaining a CV or resume, please consult with the Vice President.
 - The CV or resume is to be submitted as an attachment through the aforementioned online nomination form.