

SOAR AWARDS

The Annual **Student Organizations Awards and Recognitions (SOAR)** is an opportunity for the UAF community to celebrate the contributions and accomplishments of the UAF Student Organizations. In addition to recognition at the SOAR Awards Ceremony each spring, winning organizations receive \$100.

Academic Achievement Award

To recognize the student organization whose membership demonstrates exceptional contributions to the academic environment of UAF.

Criteria:

- Evidence of involvement and outreach with academic affairs and departments on campus and for the community at large (such as partnerships, trainings, tutoring, hosting academic events such as lectures or documentary series, etc).
- Evidence of out-of-classroom academic initiatives that internally benefit members of the group (such as presentations to the group, support of international educational experiences, department specific testing, tutoring, national conference attendance, etc).
- The recommendation of staff and faculty.

Community Service Award

To recognize a student organization that provides meaningful and outstanding volunteer service to the UAF and Fairbanks communities. Single projects will not be judged any differently than semester-long or year-long projects or a compilation of a number of projects.

Criteria:

- The service must be shown to have made a positive impact on both the community and the student organization.
- The service should be both thoughtful and meaningful. Please answer the following questions to illustrate the impact:
 - What community need was addressed?
 - How were volunteers educated about this need?
 - How did this service make a difference or impact in the community?
 - How did this service impact the student organization?
- The service must have been done in the spirit of volunteerism and not in return for monetary compensation.
- The service project(s) described should have been attended by a majority of the group's members.

Diversity Enrichment Award

To recognize a student organization that has demonstrated a significant commitment to enhancing diversity on campus and promote a campus climate that respects and appreciates individual and cultural differences. Groups will be evaluated primarily on their educational outreach efforts. Groups can address any of the following elements of diversity: culture, race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, sex, age, and economic status.

Criteria:

- Evidence of scope and impact at UAF and/or in the community.
- Evidence of intentional and thoughtful effort to create positive social change (this could include: action plans, strategic goals, promotional or publicity plans, reflection/debrief notes, etc).
- Demonstration of networking with other groups or departments (at UAF or in the community) to implement educational outreach efforts that address diversity awareness.
- Evidence of effective leadership and organizational structure.
- Documentation of educational outreach efforts (this could include: event fliers, materials/literature distributed, lecture or documentary series, community service, etc).

Exceptional Event Award

To recognize the student organization that has impacted campus life through the successful planning and implementation of a single event or event series.

Criteria:

- Evidence of reach and impact at UAF and in the community.
- Evidence of a well-executed publicity, advertising, and promotional plan.
- Evidence of effective leadership and organizational structure.
- Demonstration of cooperation with other groups or departments (UAF or in the community) to plan and/or host the event.
- Evidence of financial responsibility in terms of event budgeting.

Legacy Award

To recognize a group that has established a sustainable and growing legacy through strong organizational leadership in the midst of membership turnover and officer transition.

Criteria:

- Successful leadership/officer transition plan in place.
- Consistent and active participation as a group in campus activities (this could include: ASUAF Club Council, student organization activities hosted by the LIVE Program, community service, etc).
- Successful promotion and implementation of their own events.
- Demonstration of effective student or community leadership, as defined by the UAF Leadership Program (*core objectives include: community engagement, visioning, experimental action, knowledge acquisition, appreciation of diversity, personal development, and communication abilities*).
- Information and accessibility provided to prospective members.
- Evidence of fiscal responsibility.

Outstanding Advisor Award

To recognize the advisor who most successfully assists her/his student organization in reaching its goals and who is fully supportive of the group's stated purpose and function. Outstanding advisors demonstrate an effort to go above and beyond their stated positions, and through their involvement have become not only advisors but mentors and partners to the group members and are vital to the overall success of the organization.

Criteria:

- Indication advisor has attended and participated in organization's events and meetings.
- Evidence of the advisor's active involvement in the organization's leadership training and development.

Rookie of the Year Award

To recognize a group that was newly founded or re-established after 3 years of inactivity during the 2007-2008 school year. The student organization should demonstrate substantial progress and success in their first year of establishment.

Criteria:

This award will be given to the student organization that has most excelled in these areas:

- Evidence of successful implementation of the group's mission/purpose statement (this could include: successful promotion/implementation of events, further development of a skill, travel to and success at competitions, community service involvement, promotion of academic development, etc).
- Evidence of accessibility to prospective members and visibility on campus that strengthens the university community (this should demonstrate the implementation of open membership, outreach and recruitment on campus, and distribution of information about being a new group on campus; participation in the Student Organizations Fair is looked upon favorably).
- Demonstration of leadership development activities that benefit the student, group, university, and/or community (this could include: student organization activities such as Officer, Treasurer, and Advisor Trainings; Nacho Night; IMPACT, Resource Dinners; community service; and other LIVE Program events).
- Participation in available financial development activities (this could include: fundraising events, participation in ASUAF Club Council, Treasurer Trainings, participation in the Community Solicitation, evidence of good bookkeeping and budgeting). If this section is not applicable, please briefly explain why.