

THE 2ND ANNUAL
HAROLD KELLER PUBLIC SERVICE
LEADERSHIP AWARD

Presented by



*Honoring Integrity, Courage,
Commitment to Duty, and Hard Work*

2008 NOMINATION FORM

Harold Keller Public Service Leadership Award

The award was established to honor the long-time leader of the Stennis Student Congress, Harold C. Keller, a speech and debate coach from Davenport, Iowa. In the year 2003, Keller stepped down from his post of National Clerk of the Congress. For over 25 years, the man affectionately known as "Mr. Congress," was a driving force in planning and implementing the yearly event. Keller always believed the greatest value of Student Congress is the preparation and inspiration it provides to future leaders in public service. In his years of service, Keller oversaw everything from printing legislation and organizing the chambers to supervising the judging and checking the results. Billy Tate, the National Forensic League president, said, "No person has done more to promote and improve NFL Stennis Student Congress as an event that Harold Keller." The award that pays tribute to Keller's long-time support recognizes an individual who has successfully applied lessons learned through Student Congress to become an effective leader in public service.



Harold Keller shakes Ali Azizi's hand while Rex Buffington presents the inaugural award.

"Albert Einstein once said, 'Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile.' The recognition of Dr. Ali Azizi as the first recipient of the Harold Keller Award for Public Service Leadership definitely epitomizes Einstein's philosophy," said Harold Keller, the award's namesake. "It was humbling, as well as an incredible honor, when this award was established in my name. There are thousands of educators and students that have contributed to public service that are hopefully recognized in their community. Dr. Azizi's recognition in the John C. Stennis community and in the National Forensic League community serves as an example of an unselfish life focused on service to others."

Eligibility Criteria

To qualify for the award, an individual must be:

- a former National Student Congress participant
- a significant contributor to his or her community, state, or nation through public service leadership.

Selection Process

- To be considered all nominations and materials must be received by January 25, 2008.
- Selection will be made by an independent committee approved by the Stennis Center.
- Selection is based on demonstrated leadership ability, commitment to public service, and potential for an ongoing leadership role in the nominee's community and beyond.
- The award ceremony will be held at the National Forensic League's 2008 National Tournament in Las Vegas, Nevada.

- 2007 Award Winner -

Ali Azizi was presented with the first Harold Keller Award for Public Service Leadership at the 2007 National Forensic League Tournament. Azizi, who credits speech and debate with pointing him in a positive direction as a high school student in Plano, Texas, was honored for his work with the Peace Corps and the International Medical Corps in Afghanistan and Turkmenistan.

Born in Iran, Azizi moved to the United States at age 14 with his family. He recently received his Medical Doctorate degree from Texas A&M University's Health Science Center. Currently in a medical residency program in Santa Fe, New Mexico, Azizi is preparing to fulfill his desire to work in underdeveloped areas with underserved populations.

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NOMINATION FORM

(to be completed by nominator)

Letter of endorsement is required.

Two additional letters of recommendation are allowed for a total of three letters of support.

Nominee's Name _____

Current Position _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

Year(s) of Participation _____ Name of High School Represented _____ Location of High School (City,State) _____

Nominator (please print) _____

Title _____ Name of School _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

Nominator's Signature _____ Date _____



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NOMINATION FORM

(to be completed by
nominator or nominee)

Nominee's Name _____

A resume may be attached in lieu of this form providing it contains all of the following information.

1. List the secondary school and all higher education institutions nominee attended.

School *Location* *Dates Attended*

2. List public service and community activities. List in descending order of significance.

Activity *Role* *Dates*

3. List jobs and internships since high school or college graduation.

Type of Work *Employer* *Dates*

4. List awards or special recognitions nominee has received.

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IMPORTANT

Before mailing be sure all necessary material is included. Remember, only completed nominations received by January 25, 2008, will be considered.

- Full contact information for nominee
- Letters of support from two individuals
- Summary of nominee's public service
- Nominator's signature and contact information
- Letter of nominator's endorsement



Mail this nomination form with supporting materials to:

**KELLER AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE
STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE
BOX 9629
MISSISSIPPI STATE, MS 39762**

**ONLY COMPLETED APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY JANUARY 25, 2008,
WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR THE 2008 AWARD.**