4th Annual Wright State University
MLK Distinguished Service Awards
2013 Nomination Form

Eligibility Criteria: The Multicultural Center at Wright State University annually recognizes individuals or organizations whose deeds and/or actions are consistent with Dr. King’s teachings of non-violent social and economic change. Winners of this award may be nominated for the Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission Award, upon which this nomination form (including criteria) is modeled.

Instructions: Forms should be completed and returned to Pat Jones in the Bolinga Black Cultural Resources Center by December 28, 2012. Supporting documents may be attached to the nomination form.

Nominee Identification: Please type or print legibly.

Name________________________________________________Date:___________________

Address______________________________________________________________________

Phone____________________________________Email_________________________

Award Category: Please circle the one category which best relates to the affiliation of the nominee.

1. Wright State University undergraduate student or organization
2. Wright State University graduate student or organization
3. Wright State University faculty or organization
4. Wright State University staff or organization
5. Greater Miami Valley/Greater Dayton Area Community Member at large
6. Lifetime Achievement Award*

*This special award may not be presented annually.
Award Criteria: Individuals or organizations should have distinguished themselves in one or more of the following areas. Please select as many as applicable to your nominee and write three to five sentences about the positive impact made in the selected criteria area.

☐ Community Building:

“I believe that what self-centered men have torn down, men other–centered can build up.” Dr. King said in his address accepting the Nobel Peace Prize on December 10, 1964 in Oslo, Norway.

Nominees have made significant contributions to community by helping to build and sustain safer communities using Dr. King’s vision of non-violent social change in his/her effort to successfully bring people from diverse backgrounds together to build a better community.

☐ Educational Excellence:

“. . . rise up and know that, as you struggle for justice, you do not struggle alone.” Sermon by Dr. King at the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama, April 7, 1957.

Nominees have demonstrated a personal commitment to scholarship and attainment of educational goals despite significant barriers or obstacles (i.e., learning/physical disability, poverty, etc.) Nominees must demonstrate outstanding accomplishments addressing systemic barriers that impeded the attainment of academic excellence including tutoring, mentoring, provision of scholarships, and volunteering to effect changes in educational systems.
□ Social Justice:

“But we refuse to believe that the bank of justice is bankrupt.” Dr. King’s “I Have a Dream” speech, August 28, 1963, Washington, D.C.

Nominees have made contributions to achieving justice for individuals and communities through the legal, legislative, and government systems as they apply to the more vulnerable and marginalized people in our community. Nominee may have been active in voter registration, environmental justice, disparity in economic wealth and other civic activities that address systematic change.

□ Youth Empowerment:

“I say to you who are graduating today, you have opportunities that did not come to your mothers and fathers. Doors opening now that would not open in the past and the greatest challenge facing you as you go out into the world is to be ready to enter these doors as they open. This is a challenge.” Excerpt from the commencement address by Dr. King to Central State University, June 8, 1958.

Nominees have worked with groups of youth under 21 years of age in areas of youth leadership development while demonstrating a commitment to non-violence and inter-racial cooperation. Nominees embody one or more of Dr. King’s six principles of non-violent social changes which are:

1. Non-violent resistance results from courage and strength, not cowardice and weakness.
2. The goal of non-violent resistance is redemption and reconciliation, not bitterness and humiliation.
3. Non-violent resistance is “directed against the forces of evil rather than against persons who happen to be doing evil.”
4. Non-violent protesters must be willing to accept suffering without retaliating.
5. “At the center of non-violence stands the principle of love.”
6. Non-violent resistance is built upon the “conviction that the universe is on the side of justice.”
☐ Cultural Awareness:

“I have the audacity to believe that peoples everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their minds and dignity, equality and freedom for their spirits.” Dr. King’s Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech, December 10, 1964, in Oslo, Norway.

Nominees demonstrate a sincere appreciation for diversity and demonstrate skill in building and maintaining harmonious cross-cultural relationships. Nominees may have displayed leadership in creating unity among people of diverse cultural backgrounds.

☐ Economic Opportunity:

“The curse of poverty has no justification in our age. It is socially as cruel and blind as the practice of cannibalism at the dawn of civilization, when men ate each other because they had not yet learned to take food from the soil or to consume the abundant animal life around them. The time has come for us to civilize ourselves by the total, direct and immediate abolition of poverty.” Dr. King’s 1967 speech “Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?”

Nominees are individuals or groups who seek to improve the quality of life for its citizens in economically challenged areas through economic innovative incentives or programs. Nominees may have contributed to the workforce training development, creation of community partners, housing or food assistance programs, environmental programs or distributing relief or aid to communities or individuals in need.
□ Health Equity and Awareness:

“It seemed as if there was a real promise of hope for the poor, both black and white, through the poverty program.” Dr. King’s speech “Beyond Vietnam”, April 4, 1967, New York, New York

Nominees offer exemplary community outreach and service to underserved populations. Service may include any activity that increases accessibility to health care for the under-served while providing real promise and fulfillment of hope for the poor. Individuals or groups are involved with the delivery or facilitation of health care information such as HIV prevention, prenatal care, pediatric care, or other services.

□ Lifetime Achievement: (Award may not be presented annually)

“In other words, it is that inward concern that causes one to push forward, to achieve his own goals and ambitions. The breadth of life as we shall use it here is the outward concern for the welfare of others.” From “The Three Dimensions of a Complete Life,” April 9, 1967, Chicago, New Covenant Baptist Church.

Nominees have distinguished themselves as a champion for non-violent social change. They have given of their time and service freely to help those in need without question and often without recognition. This award seeks to honor those “unsung heroes and sheroes” who promote the welfare of humanity and the elimination of pain and suffering through their own selfless service. Nominees represent a personal activism that has led him/her to render unheralded long-term service to the community. Lifetime achievers are role models for others to emulate. They may be an organizer, community activist, educator, change agent, and someone who does what they do just because of who they are.
Nominated By:

Name__________________________________________

Phone (best number to reach you) ________________________________________

E-mail__________________________________________

In what capacity do you know the nominee? Please feel free to include any information that might help the committee make a more informed choice.

Check Appropriate Award Categories:

- Community Building
- Educational Excellence
- Social Justice
- Youth Empowerment
- Lifetime Achievement
- Cultural Awareness
- Economic Opportunity
- Health Equity and Awareness

Completed nomination forms should be submitted to Pat Jones (patricia.d.jones@wright.edu) at the Bolinga Center, 140 Millett Hall, Wright State University, 3640 Colonel Glenn Highway, Dayton, Ohio 45435. Any questions will be answered by calling (937) 775-5645.

Completed nomination forms must be in the Bolinga Center by 5:00PM by December 28, 2012.