

Why Nominate Someone?

The quiet, daily acts of ordinary people who refuse to give up despite adversities represent courage in its truest form. They are the heart of The SSJ Spirit of Courage.

TIPS ON HOW TO MAKE YOUR NOMINATION STAND OUT

Milestones (i.e. medical, clinical, etc.) are important to a nominee's story. Please include information about his/her personal struggles, efforts and set-backs. If the nominee has a favorite quote or philosophy about life, please include this. All these things add insight and dimension to a person's story.

What are the SSJ Spirit of Courage Awards?

In 1997, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania began honoring courageous individuals with an SSJ Spirit of Courage Recognition (formerly The Courage To Come Back). The SSJ Spirit of Courage program was created to honor individuals who have shown remarkable courage and whose story serves as an inspiration for others. The annual recognition dinner is an opportunity for the Sisters to spread awareness of their ministries that assist those in need of courage through difficult times.

The SSJ Spirit of Courage Awards is a natural fit with the Sister's many ministries of education, healthcare, care for the elderly, social work, finding shelter for the homeless and affordable housing for families.



Annual Recognition

Nomination Form

Nominations accepted through
May 31
Recognition Dinner
October

www.ssjerie.org

Who are the Sisters of St. Joseph?

Women of Spirit, Courage & Vision

Founded in 17th century France, the Sisters of St. Joseph first came to the Erie Diocese 150 years ago to minister to the sick, teach children and serve in a wide range of ministries. The Sisters have staffed many schools and established Saint Vincent Health Center, Villa Maria Elementary, Villa Maria Academy, Villa Maria College, St. Joseph's Orphanage, St. Mary's Home of Erie, St. Patrick Haven, and the SSJ Neighborhood Network. They also established collaborative ministries with the Sisters of Mercy and the Benedictine Sisters including Erie DAWN (Dwellings and Advocacy for Women in Need), Catholic Rural Ministries and POWR (Partnership of Women Religious).

Today, the Sisters' presence has moved beyond hospitals and classrooms and includes pastoral, social and liturgical ministries in Catholic parishes, global mission projects, outreach to the elderly, rural ministry, campus ministry, youth ministry and numerous other efforts. There are few people in the area whose lives have not been touched, directly or indirectly, by the Sisters of St. Joseph.



Nominations

The Sisters of St. Joseph are seeking nominees who have demonstrated extraordinary courage. Nominees must permanently reside within the boundaries of the thirteen counties of Northwestern Pennsylvania.

In selecting individuals to be honored,
The SSJ Spirit of Courage Award
Selection Committee reviews
all nomination materials received.

ADULT

Examples of someone who shows courage: individuals who have shown remarkable courage in recovery from chemical dependency, mental health issues, economic adversity, general medicine, and/or physical rehabilitation. Nominations will also be accepted for individuals for special acts of courage.

YOUTH

A person 18 years of age or younger who shows evidence of self-confidence and acceptance of his/her disability, injury, accident, trauma or circumstances. Nominations will also be accepted for youths for special acts of courage.

Each year nominations far exceeds the amount of individuals we are able to recognize.

Unless you specify, the nomination will be resubmitted each year following the year a nomination is submitted. You will be contacted if the individual is not selected and asked to provide any updated information about the nominee.

How to Nominate Someone

Instructions for nominating someone for an SSJ Spirit of Courage Award are outlined below and on our website www.ssjerie.org
If you need assistance, please contact:

Kristina Huber

814-836-4202 or kristina.huber@ssjerie.org
or visit www.ssjerie.org

1. Please include all the required information with your nomination.
2. The Nominee's Story is Important!
The best way to illustrate the courage of the individual you are nominating is to provide as many details as possible. Please provide a lengthy narrative/essay to relay the nominee's full story and include the following:
 - * Details about the nominee's courage. (include setbacks, outlook, specific accomplishments, and current activity)
 - * Ways in which this individual has enhanced/inspired the lives of others either directly or through organizational participation
 - * Why you feel this person exemplifies courage
3. Please be sure to obtain permission to nominate from the individual you are nominating.
Honorees will be asked to sign a release form of his/her story (provided at the conclusion of the interviewing process). By accepting the Courage honor, all honorees are consenting to allow his/her name and/or photo and story to be used for current and future Courage promotions.

Please submit nomination by May 31 to:
SSJ Spirit of Courage Awards
Sisters of St. Joseph
5031 West Ridge Road
Erie, PA 16506

About the Nominee

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____ Age _____

E-mail address _____

Today's date _____



About the Nominator

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____

E-mail address _____