

THE EASTSIDE AWARD FOR VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Entry Criteria:

This award is open to nomination for a volunteer who has demonstrated a commitment (of not less than 2 years on **17th October 2023**) to an organisation or because which contributes to the life of East Belfast or Greater East Belfast Area.

Nominators are encouraged to provide information that will demonstrate how the individual has made an impact through their:

- Participation in the community engagement, youth work or business life of East Belfast.
- Emerging leadership and or long service in their area of involvement.
- Ability to act as a role model for others.
- Engagement with education, skills and personal development.
- Collaboration with other activities
 - In East Belfast
 - Outside East Belfast
- Achievements attained in their area of involvement and activity.
- any other relevant information that would support their entry.

This includes any or all activities or innovations undertaken to keep people involved during the Covid period.

PLEASE NOTE:

If the person you nominate is shortlisted, you or your representative may be asked to meet with the judging panel to discuss your submission.

How to Enter:

1. Visit www.eastsideawards.org and choose the category that you wish to enter/nominate in.
2. Download the category criteria and start planning how you/your organisation meets the requirements.
3. Decide whether you wish to submit a written or a video submission:

Video Submission:

This is a new entry mechanism for 2023 for those who would prefer to personally tell the story of them/their organisation rather than submit a written application.

Step 1: Fill in your details via the application form.

Step 2: Once you have filled in your details, you will be prompted to upload your video submission. There is no set structure for the video submission, the main aim should be to address the category criteria and tell the judges why you/your organisation deserves to win. Remember, you only have **120** seconds. Please note: It will be the strength of the entry, and how it meets the criteria, that will be assessed rather than the production of the video submission.

Written Submission:

Written applications can either be submitted online using the online entry form or by downloading an application form from the website and emailing a completed version to info@eastsideawards.org. All written submissions must address how you/the organisation/the business or individual meet the category criteria in a maximum of **1000 words**.

Helpful Hints:

- ✓ Take time to look at the criteria in your chosen category and use it to guide your responses.
- ✓ It is important to note that the judges will be looking for evidence that will demonstrate the contributions, achievements or impacts associated with your responses.
- ✓ Remember, the judges can only base their assessment on the information provided so please do make sure you include all relevant information to assist them in the judging process.
- ✓ Please remember that regardless of whether you submit a written or video application or nomination, the judges will assess the submission based on how the entry meets the set category criteria.
- ✓ Should you experience any difficulty in submitting your application, please contact Jessica Higginson jessica.higginson@podiem.com or call **028 9076 1030**.

Eastside Awards 2023 Timeline of Events:

- Entries Open at **4pm Thursday 14th September 2023**.
- Entries should be submitted or returned no later than **5pm Tuesday 17th October 2023**.
- Judging will be held at the **end of November 2023**.
- Finalists will be announced in **early December 2023**.
- The Awards ceremony will be held at Hastings Stormont Hotel on **Friday 26th Jan 2024**.

All queries in relation to applications or any aspects of the awards can be sent to info@eastsideawards.org