



***Neighborhoods, USA
2009 Neighborhood of the Year Award***

General Information

Eligibility:

Your organization is eligible to submit an application for the 2009 Neighborhood of the Year Award if you have developed or implemented a project that has benefited your neighborhood in 2008. If you have been recognized as a finalist in previous Neighborhood of the Year competitions, you may apply again if you are nominating a new project; you may not re-enter projects that have previously been considered.

Application and Selection Process:

In order to be considered for a 2009 Neighborhood of the Year Award, you must submit an application with a \$65.00 entry fee to *Robert Gibbons, Award Program Chair, Neighborhoods, USA, 2009 Neighborhood of the Year Award, 1950 E. Washington Ave #1, Madison, WI, 53704-5278. Entries must be postmarked by March 1, 2009 and accompanied by a \$65.00 entry fee made payable to NUSA.*

After applications are received, a panel of judges will review them and will select the best nominations in three categories as finalists for further consideration at the 2009 Neighborhoods, USA Conference in Spokane, Washington, May 21 – 23, 2009.

The three categories are:

1) Physical Revitalization/Beautification - Single Neighborhood

This category includes projects that are initiated by one neighborhood organization and focus on the physical aspects of a neighborhood such as parks, green spaces, housing improvement, lighting, litter control, traffic management, signage, neighborhood business district enhancement, etc.

2) Social Revitalization/Neighborliness - Single Neighborhood

This category includes projects that are initiated by one neighborhood and focus on the social or cultural aspects of a neighborhood such as neighborhood safety, neighborhood youth and seniors, activities that help neighbors feel connected and foster a spirit of cooperation such as neighborhood festivals and celebrations, etc.

3) Multi Neighborhood Partnerships

This category includes projects that are jointly sponsored by at least two neighborhood or community organizations in a collaborative effort. They can address physical, social or other project areas.

Organizations that are selected as finalists will be notified no later than April 1, 2009 and will be invited to make a presentation at the 2009 NUSA Conference. Costs associated with attending the conference are the responsibility of the finalist organization. Award winners in each category and a grand prize winner will be announced at the Neighborhood of the Year Award luncheon on Friday afternoon.

Selection Criteria:

Selection of Neighborhood of the Year Award finalists and award winners will be based on a consideration of the degree to which the nominated project, in its unique neighborhood context, is innovative, overcomes obstacles, mobilizes community resources, and creates partnerships between people of different ages, cultures or economic stature that who would not ordinarily work together. Awards will be based on the following considerations, with points given as indicated:

The extent of self-help evidenced (minimal reliance on outside funding)	20 points
Innovativeness of the project	10 points
Sustainability (minimal on-going administrative costs)	10 points
Partnership Building	
- With Public and/or Private Entities	10 points
- With other neighborhood and community based groups	10 points
Extent of grassroots involvement	20 points
Extent of Volunteer Contributions to Project	5 points
Potential for the project to be replicated in other neighborhoods	5 points
Extent that project provides for the development of new leaders	10 points
Total points possible, excluding Judges' tie breaker = 100 points	

For more information, contact:

Robert Gibbons, Award Program Committee Chair
Neighborhoods, USA
2009 Neighborhood of the Year Award
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