

Saturday, November 1, 2020

Dear Fraternity and Sorority Community:

2020 is the year we never could have imagined. Between a worldwide pandemic, social injustices, and many more stressors, we debated about whether or not to even put an awards packet out. Would it add additional, unneeded stress to our groups? Would they want the activities they were able to complete – virtually or in-person – recognized? In the end, we decided that given everything 2020 has brought that our FSL chapters have risen to the challenge and still lived their values, put on outstanding programming and provided their members with a worthwhile experience – and that deserves to be recognized!

Please note, in the past to be eligible for the President's Cup chapters must have submitted six chapter award applications. This year, we are only requiring four chapter award applications to be eligible for the President's Cup. Additionally, all chapters are welcome to submit awards regardless of their 2020 True Blue Accreditation Status.

We remain overjoyed to recognize our chapters, the fraternity men, and the sorority women that make our community great.

Chapter leaders should delegate the completion of award packets to officers in charge of those areas and should not prepare the packet on their own. A checklist is provided for each award to illustrate a complete award application in each category.

Award applications will be reviewed by the FSL Awards Committee. If necessary, award finalists will be interviewed. Awards will be presented at the FSL Awards Ceremony on **Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 6:00pm** in the Student Union Ballroom, tentatively. The ceremony will most likely look different again in 2021 but we hope to invite chapter leaders, at minimum, to a live event. The deadline to apply for awards is **Monday, March 1, 2021 at 4:30pm**. All applications are to be completed and submitted electronically to leslie.merritt@mtsu.edu. Late entries will be ineligible for consideration. If you should have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact the FSL staff.

Fraternally,



Leslie Merritt
Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life



Jordan Borchert
Coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life



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Guidelines and Information:

- Applications will only be considered for activities that took place in the 2020 calendar year.
- Do not submit previously submitted applications. This will cause your application to be disqualified (i.e. It is not appropriate to submit the same application for advisor of the year that was submitted last year).
- Late awards will not be considered.
- Please note that VIRTUAL events are eligible for awards.
- The FSL Award Committee is interested in content and documentation. Please do not add information that does not relate to the award.
- Read all the instructions thoroughly. Awards applications that do not follow instructions will be disqualified.

FSL Awards include the following:

Chapter Awards

- Outstanding New Member Education Program
- Outstanding Member Education Program
- Outstanding Philanthropic Event
- Outstanding Branding and Communication Efforts
- Outstanding Community Service Efforts
- Outstanding Campus Program
- Outstanding Social Event
- Outstanding Brotherhood/Sisterhood Programming
- Outstanding Fraternal Relations
- Outstanding Alumni Relations
- Outstanding Risk Prevention and Accountability Programming
- President's Cup

Individual Awards

- Fraternity Man of the Year
- Sorority Woman of the Year
- Fraternity Chapter President of the Year
- Sorority Chapter President of the Year
- New Member of the Year
- Senior of the Year
- Servant Leader of the Year
- Chapter Advisor of the Year
- Faculty/Staff Member of the Year

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

In order to be considered for the President's Cup of Excellence and the Chapter of the Year Award, the chapter must submit at least four chapter award applications. Although the minimum number of chapter awards is four, chapters are encouraged to submit all award applications as it will improve the likelihood of being awarded a larger honor.



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CHAPTER AWARDS

Outstanding New Member Education Program

This award is designed to recognize a chapter that shows commitment to creating relevant and thoughtful programming for their new members.

A complete award application includes:

- An overview of your new member educational programming calendar for the year.
- A narrative of the most innovative and/or successful new member programming, including how that program met the needs of its new members and what impact it had on the chapter's entire membership.
- Any supporting documentation of educational sessions, workshops, action plans, etc.

Outstanding Member Education Program

This award is designed to recognize a chapter that shows commitment to creating relevant and thoughtful programming for their members after initiation.

A complete award application includes:

- An overview of your educational programming calendar for the year.
- A narrative of the most innovative and/or successful member programming, including how that program met the needs of the chapter and what impact it had on the chapter's entire membership.
- Any supporting documentation of educational sessions, workshops, action plans, etc.

Outstanding Philanthropic Event

This award is intended to recognize an outstanding philanthropic event. This award recognizes not only the amount of money raised, but also a true understanding of the value of giving and its importance to the fraternity and sorority community.

A complete award application includes:

- A detailed overview of ONE exceptional philanthropic event that your chapter coordinated and implemented for a philanthropic cause in the past calendar year.
- The amount of money raised and the philanthropic organization that benefited from the program.
- Proof that the funds were delivered to the philanthropic organization.
- Any educational/promotional materials that were developed in conjunction with the event.
- Any supporting documentation you may have such as photos, advertisements, etc.*



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Outstanding Branding and Communication Efforts

This award recognizes a chapter who has made great efforts to not only brand their chapter in a unique way but also to provide positive public relations in regard to fraternal values.

A complete award application includes:

- A detailed overview of chapter activities over the past year that positively impacted the following constituents: faculty, staff, parents, families, general student body, fraternity/sorority headquarters, local community, or the FSL community.
- A description of the chapter's social media presence and campaigns utilized during the past calendar year.
- The chapter's marketing plan utilized to promote a positive fraternity/sorority image.
- Any media coverage materials or social media engagement reports.

Outstanding Community Service Efforts

This award recognizes the chapter that embraced service as a core value throughout the past calendar year. It is meant to celebrate the chapter's hands-on contribution to the greater community. *Please note that this award recognizes hands-on community service and not monies raised.*

A complete award application includes:

- A narrative that describes the role service plays in your chapter and specific community service events that your chapter participated in.
- A narrative about the way community service has positively impacted your chapter.
- Documentation showing the complete number of community service hours chapter members earned during the past year.
- Any supporting materials such as letter(s) of proof, photos, chapter's community service policy, etc.

Outstanding Campus Program

This award is designed to recognize the chapter that shows a commitment to creating relevant and thoughtful programming for the campus and community. *This award is not for the chapter with the largest amount of programming but rather recognizes the chapter that put on the best chapter program for the campus.*

A complete award application includes:

- A detailed overview of ONE exceptional campus program that your chapter coordinated and implemented in the past calendar year.
- A description of how the chapter's program benefitted the campus community and how chapter's program(s) benefitted the FSL community.
- Attach and any promotional material(s), media coverage, photos, etc.



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Outstanding Social Event

This award will be given to the two FSL organization that sponsored the most creative social event. *The event must be sponsored by at least two FSL organizations.*

A complete award application includes:

- An overview of the social event including the planning that took place and what made this event a stand out in the chapter's social calendar.
- A detailed listing of all risk management policies followed.
- Any supporting documentation, pictures, etc.

Outstanding Brotherhood/Sisterhood Programming

This award is designed to recognize a chapter that has made great efforts to build sisterhood/brotherhood within their chapter by hosting programming designed only for its chapter members and with the sole goal of bonding.

A complete award application includes:

- A calendar of your sisterhood/brotherhood events.
- An overview of the chapter's philosophy on sisterhood/brotherhood and outcomes of the programming and detail how the programming met the needs of the chapter and what impact it had on the chapter's entire membership.
- Any supporting documentation of events, pictures, etc.

Outstanding Fraternal Relations

This award is designed to recognize any chapter who has gone above and beyond in its efforts to unify the FSL community and its chapters. *Chapters should not nominate their own chapter but rather a chapter they feel is deserving of this award.*

A complete award application includes:

- A narrative on how the efforts of the chapter your have chosen to nominate has made in improving the relationships within the FSL community.
- Any supporting documentation of events, pictures, etc.



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Outstanding Alumni Relations

This award is designed to recognize a chapter with outstanding alumni programming, involvement, outreach efforts, and communication.

A complete award application includes:

- A summary of the chapter's outreach efforts to alumnae/ alumni, involvement of alumnae/alumni with daily chapter operations, and how this group works with the chapter.
- A calendar of all alumni programs sponsored by the chapter.
- Any chapter produced alumni newsletters, programs and other publications that can support your application.

Outstanding Risk Prevention and Accountability

This award is designed to recognize any chapter who actively promotes healthy behaviors, self-awareness, and accountability within the chapter.

A complete award application includes:

- A description of the risk prevention and accountability programming on topics such as alcohol education and sexual assault awareness provided to chapter membership.
- A narrative of how the chapter encourages healthy lifestyles and behaviors among its members.
- A summary of how the chapter holds members accountable while caring for their wellbeing.
- Any supporting documents such as presentations, workshop content, conduct/risk policies, etc.

President's Cup of Excellence

The President's Cup of Excellence is determined by the highest overall combined scores from chapter award applications. The top scoring chapter from each council (Interfraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council and Panhellenic Council) will be awarded the President's Cup of Excellence.

In order to be considered for the President's Cup of Excellence, the chapter must submit at least four chapter award applications. Although the minimum number of chapter awards is four, chapters are encouraged to submit all award applications.



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INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Victor Felts Fraternity Man of the Year

This award is designed to recognize the fraternity man who serves as an example of what it means to be True Blue and a fraternity member. When nominating, chapters should account for service to the chapter, national organization, MTSU FSL community, campus leadership and service, as well as overall chapter engagement and involvement. Members that have held leadership roles within chapters and/or governing councils and have specifically contributed to the efforts and progression of the FSL community are the most eligible for this award. *Both fraternity and sorority chapters can nominate a fraternity man of the year. The man you nominate can be from your chapter but does not have to be if you feel like another fraternity man is more deserving.*

A complete award application includes:

- A list of all leadership roles held in the chapter and FSL community.
- A list all organizations nominee holds membership in and any offices held (non-Greek organizations).
- A list all community service involvement.
- A list any honors, awards, special achievements, honor society memberships.
- A narrative on how the nominee has improved their council and/or the FSL community at MTSU.
- A picture of the nominee.
- Recommendation/support letters are encouraged but not required.

Dean Judy Smith Sorority Woman of the Year

This award is designed to recognize the sorority woman who serves as an example of what it means to be True Blue and a sorority member. When nominating, chapters should account for service to the chapter, national organization, MTSU FSL community, campus leadership and service, as well as overall chapter engagement and involvement. Members that have held leadership roles within chapters and/or governing councils and have specifically contributed to the efforts and progression of the FSL community are the most eligible for this award. *Both fraternity and sorority chapters can nominate a sorority woman of the year. The woman you nominate can be from your chapter but does not have to be if you feel like another sorority woman is more deserving.*

A complete award application includes:

- A list of all leadership roles held in the chapter and FSL community.
- A list all organizations nominee holds membership in and any offices held (non-Greek organizations).
- A list all community service involvement.
- A list any honors, awards, special achievements, honor society memberships.
- A narrative on how the nominee has improved their council and/or the FSL community at MTSU.
- A picture of the nominee.
- Recommendation/support letters are encouraged but not required.



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Chapter President of the Year

This award is designed to recognize a chapter president who went above and beyond in their duties as a leader, both within the chapter and community. Each chapter should nominate one chapter president, regardless if they are a sorority or fraternity member, who held office during the 2020 calendar year. *You do not have to nominate your chapter's president if you feel that another president is more deserving.*

A complete award application includes:

- A summary of the nominee's effort to improve chapter operations, programming, relationships with other organizations, chapter headquarters, and the university relations.
- A description of the nominee's relationship with the FSL office (Chapter Presidents' Meetings, One on One Meetings, Administrative Responsibilities, etc.)
- A narrative of the nominee's service to MTSU and to the MTSU FSL community.
- Describe nominee's service to the MTSU FSL community.
- A list any honors, awards, special achievements, honor society memberships.
- A picture of the nominee.
- Recommendation/support letters are encouraged but not required.

New Member of the Year

This award is designed to recognize an outstanding new member within the FSL community. Each chapter should nominate one new member who accepted an invitation to membership/bid during the 2020 calendar year. When considering which new member to nominate, chapters should account for chapter and campus leadership and service, as well as overall chapter engagement and involvement. *You do not have to nominate a new member from your organization but instead can nominate a new member from another organization if you feel they are more deserving.*

A complete award application includes:

- A description of the nominee's service to the chapter.
- A summary of the nominee's extracurricular involvement at MTSU.
- A description of the nominee's community service activities.
- A picture of the nominee.
- Recommendation/support letters are encouraged but not required.



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Senior of the Year

This award is designed to recognize a deserving senior who exhibits the highest standards of purpose and performance in their chapter throughout their collegiate experience. When considering a nominee, chapters should consider the member's dedication and commitment to the fraternity or sorority, governing council, MTSU FSL community and campus community. *You do not have to nominate a senior from your organization but instead can nominate a senior from another organization if you feel they are more deserving. Nominee must have been classified as a senior during part of the 2020 calendar year.*

A complete award application includes:

- A list activities that the nominee was involved within the chapter and MTSU throughout membership.
- An answer to the following question - Seniors are statistically the least active members in fraternities and sororities. What has motivated the nominee to stay committed and engaged within the Chapter?
- A description of how the nominee exemplify dedication to fraternal values.
- A description of the nominee's legacy to the Chapter.
- A picture of the nominee.
- Recommendation/support letters are encouraged but not required.

Servant Leader of the Year

This award is designed to recognize a community member who leads by serving others. When considering which member to nominate, chapters should account for the member's commitment to community service, charitable fundraising, and leading by example, as well as overall civic engagement. *You do not have to nominate a member from your organization but instead can nominate a member from another organization if you feel they are more deserving.*

A complete award application includes:

- Examples of contributions the nominee has made to their chapter and the community.
- Specific reflection on how the member has contributed to community agencies, the awareness of a cause, and/or the betterment of humanity is highly encouraged.
- A description of how the nominee's servant leadership is shown through their fraternity or sorority experiences.
- Provide a letter of support from the sponsoring community service organization.
- A picture of the nominee.
- Additional Recommendation/support letters are encouraged but not required.



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Chapter Advisor of the Year

This award is designed to recognize a chapter advisor who goes above and beyond to serve the undergraduate chapter. When considering which advisor to nominate (if you have more than one), chapters should account for service to the MTSU FSL community, involvement with the national fraternity or sorority, assistance/guidance provided during chapter issues, as well as overall engagement with the chapter membership.

A complete award application includes:

- A description of nominee's service to the chapter.
- Examples of leadership or service provided by the nominee.
- A list of any awards or recognition the nominee has received.
- A picture of the nominee.
- Additional Recommendation/support letters are encouraged but not required.

Faculty/Staff Member of the Year

The award is designed to recognize an instructor or staff member who serves as role model to students and colleagues. Nominees should participate in MTSU community events to promote FSL. When nominating a faculty member or staff member, chapters should account for service to and engagement in the FSL community. *FSL Staff is exempt from this award.*

A complete award application includes:

- A description of the nominee's service to the chapter or FSL community.
- Examples of leadership or service provided by the nominee.
- A list of any awards or recognition the nominee has received.
- A picture of the nominee.
- Additional Recommendation/support letters are encouraged but not required.