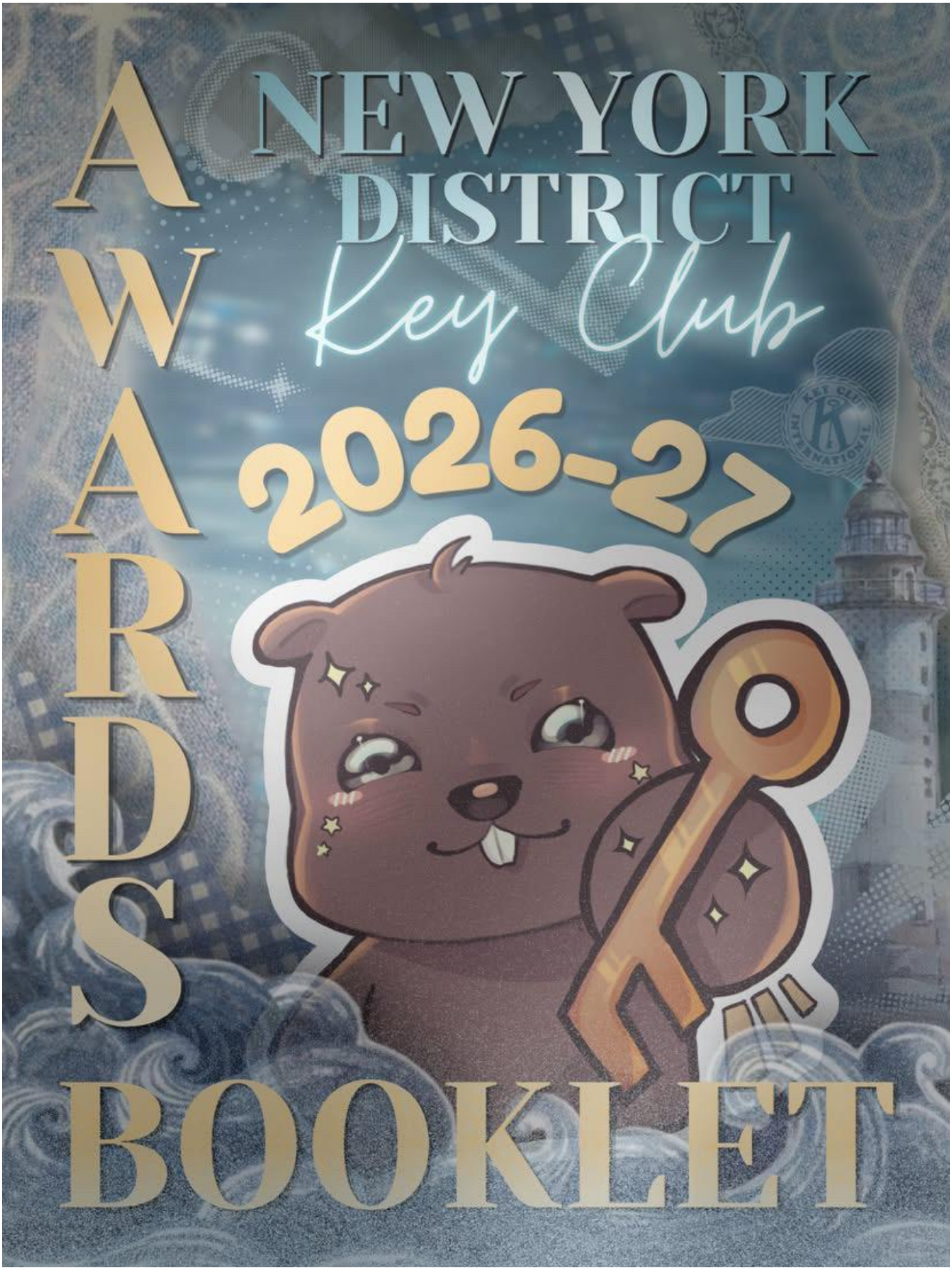

NEW YORK
DISTRICT
Key Club
2026-27
AWARDS
BOOKLET

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GOVERNOR'S GREETING



Hi NYDKC!

It is my absolute honor to welcome you to the 2026-2027 Awards Booklet for our 79th Annual Leadership Training Conference! I am beyond excited for all of us to come together for a weekend full of service and celebration!

At LTC, you'll hear from incredible keynote speakers, participate in engaging workshops, and make so many amazing memories with Key Clubbers from across New York! In addition to this, LTC is also about reflecting on everything we've accomplished this year and celebrating the impact you've made along the way.

As a Key Clubber, you have the opportunity to truly change lives, and throughout this service year, you have done exactly that. You've spent hours volunteering. You've planned fundraisers, led meetings, started projects, and found ways to serve when your community needed you. The work you do matters and we want to recognize it. That's exactly why this Awards Booklet exists!
My biggest piece of advice when it comes to awards is... JUST APPLY! (GO FOR IT!) You've made real impacts that deserve to be celebrated, regardless of your club's size or location. So even if you have doubts...apply anyway!

I cannot wait to see everything you submit and, even more, I cannot wait to celebrate all of YOU at LTC! Please never hesitate to reach out with questions, and thank you for all of the care and effort you've poured into this service year!

Yours Always in Friendship and Service,

Abby Halloran
New York District Governor

AWARDS COMMITTEE GREETING

Hey New York District Key Club!

Welcome to the New York District's 2026-2027 Awards Booklet! New York District Key Club would like to congratulate all Key Club members for the endless commitment, passion, and hard work that has been seen throughout this service year. The Awards Committee's objective is to recognize individuals and clubs who have gone above and beyond in caring for their homes, schools, and communities as well as demonstrating compelling leadership, character building, and unwavering dedication.

The Awards Committee strongly encourages you to thoroughly examine the booklet and apply for the awards that pertain to you or your club. All awards will be judged fairly, therefore don't hold back from applying to awards!

Please take your time and read the booklet carefully, as it contains valuable information and instructions to guide you during the application process.

We hope you find the 2026-2027 Awards Booklet helpful and that you will apply for several awards! If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, feel free to contact the Awards Committee Co-Chairs, Division 12 Lieutenant Governor Emma Lee (division12@nydkc.org) and Division 21 Lieutenant Governor Nozila Alibekova (division21@nydkc.org).

Yours in Service,
Your 2026-2027 NYDKC Awards Committee

PREFACE

Purpose

The purpose of district awards is to recognize Key Club members, officers, and advisors for their hard work.

Development

The Awards Booklet is a product of hard work from many generations prior. All awards are up-to-date with Key Club International guidelines and changes are made each year in order to better reflect the ideals of Key Club International.

Sufficient Proof

For certain applications, sufficient proof must be submitted with your application unless otherwise stated.

General Rules

1. In order to apply or be considered for any and all awards, all applicant members and applicant clubs must be in good standing with New York District Key Club and Key Club International.
2. The New York District of Key Club International reserves the right to retain all entries and not return them to their respective applicants.
3. Letters of nomination and letters of recommendations, where applicable, cannot be written by the same person.
4. The New York District Administrator, Governor, or Awards Committee may disqualify any and all applicants for cheating, providing misleading/insufficient details, or for any other reason.

SUBMISSION METHODS / DEADLINES

The **New York District Key of Honor** award has the earliest application submission date. Applications must be mailed to District Administrator John Goldstein postmarked no later than **Friday, January 15, 2027.**

All other award submissions follow the following methods and schedules:

BY MAIL **Postmarked by** **Monday, February 8, 2027** Mr. John Goldstein NY District Key Club Administrator 590 Mullock Road Port Jervis, NY 12771 Attn: Key Club Awards	**ONLINE** **Submitted by** **Friday, February 12, 2027** **at 8:00 PM** www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards
Distinguished Club	Distinguished Key Clubber
Novice Club	Outstanding Key Club Member
Single Service	Outstanding Key Club Officers (All)
Major Emphasis	Distinguished Faculty Advisor
Public Relations	Distinguished Kiwanis Advisor
Madenberg Award for Excellence	Outstanding Governor's Project
	Kiwanis Family Relations
	Interclub
	Digital Scrapbook
	Club Video
	Club T-Shirt Contest
	Governor's Scholarship
	Kiwanis Memorial Scholarship

The following awards should be submitted at the Leadership Training Conference:

- Traditional Scrapbook
- Non-Traditional Scrapbook
- Non-Digital Poster
- Digital Poster

Lastly, Talent and Oratorical Contest sign-ups must be completed online no later than Friday, March 12, 2027.

NEW YORK DISTRICT KEY OF HONOR

Must be postmarked by Friday, January 15, 2027 to the address on page 7

INTENT

The New York District Key of Honor is the highest distinction presented by the New York District of Key Club. The recipient is an adult who has made a life-long impact upon Key Club and youth in general or an organization that has been honored for long-term support of youth or the New York District of Key Club International.

CRITERIA

1. **Key of Honor** entries must be submitted in a binder, notebook, or portfolio which is neat and clearly labeled with the nominee's name

2. **Letter of Nomination** – written by an individual or committee of individuals and should include a nomination statement, a basic overview of the candidate, and the reason for nomination.

3. **Biographical Information** – including schools/colleges attended, community involvement, occupation/business interests, Kiwanis Family and other youth service affiliations, and other pertinent biographical information.

4. **Letters of Recommendation** – Exactly four letters of recommendation are required (none of which can be written by the same person who wrote the letter of nomination). The letters may be divided into any categories desired, but it is suggested that a letter from the community, the Kiwanis Club, and from a Key Club officer or members be included. This does not include the Letter of Nomination.

5. **Letter of Summation** – written by the nominator, it should summarize the letters of recommendation and the applicant's personal history. It should also include reasons why the nominee is deserving of this highest honor.

6. **Additional Information** – Up to four pages of additional information, including photographs, newspaper clippings, etc., may also be included in the nomination binder.

CLUB AWARDS

SINGLE SERVICE AWARD

Must be postmarked no later than Monday, February 8, 2027 to the address on page 7

INTENT

The New York District Single Service Award is given to individual Key Clubs of varying sizes, which through their unselfish efforts have produced the best single project this year, dedicated to their school and/or community. The best overall Single Service project across all membership categories will be awarded the Steven R. Scharoff Single Service Project Award.

A qualifying Single Service Project shall be defined as a club service project planned, organized, and produced by the Key Club occurring on a single day, consecutive days, or recurring on different days. Acceptable projects include both hands-on service projects and fundraising efforts. In the case of a recurring project, it is the same project that must be repeated for the purpose of achieving the same service goal.

First, second, and third place winners may be awarded in each of the following membership categories: **Bronze (clubs with 35 members or less), Silver (36 to 60 members), Gold (61 to 85 members), and Platinum (86 members or more)**.

CRITERIA

1. The Single Service Report Form must be completed and signed. It can be found here.
2. The activity must have been completed during 2026-2027 Key Club year (April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026).
3. Single Service Award entries must be submitted in a binder, notebook, or portfolio which is neat and clearly labeled with the club's name and the title of the project.
4. The report must be typed and include clearly identified sections addressing the service need, the project plan, the project implementation, the final results, public awareness, and the number of members who participated in the event. The report may also include newspaper clippings, photographs, and other pertinent information.

JUDGING

Entries are judged based on the scoring system below.

1. Service Need **10 points**
2. Project Plan **20 points**
3. Project Implementation **20 points**
4. Final Results **25 points**
5. Public Awareness **10 points**
6. Percentage of Members Participating: **15 points**

1% - 9% = 6 points	50% - 59% = 11 points
10% - 19% = 7 points	60% - 69% = 12 points
20% - 29% = 8 points	70% - 79% = 13 points
30% - 39% = 9 points	80% - 89% = 14 points
40% - 49% = 10 points	90% - 100% = 15 points

DISTINGUISHED CLUB AWARD

The Annual Club Achievement Report Form must be postmarked no later than Monday, February 8, 2027 to the address on page 7

INTENT

The Distinguished Club Award is a non-competitive application designed to recognize individual Key Clubs for their overall performance in the combined areas of club administration, membership and leadership development, Kiwanis-Family involvement, service, and fundraising, as judged by a pre-established standard for excellence.

CRITERIA

1. Clubs must complete the Annual Achievement Report Form (including all required signatures). The Annual Achievement Report form can be found here.
2. Submissions must be mailed to New York District Administrator John Goldstein at the address noted on page 7 postmarked no later than February 8, 2027.

JUDGING

1. Entries will be judged based on the achievement of a certain percentage of accumulated points across all categories of the Annual Achievement Report Form.
2. Clubs achieving a pre-determined score (or more) shall be designated as a Distinguished Club or Distinguished Club-Diamond Level. (The Key Club International Board shall set the minimum number of points required for these designations.)
3. All Diamond level recipients will be submitted to Key Club International.

NOVICE CLUB AWARD

The Annual Club Achievement Report Form must be postmarked no later than Monday, February 8, 2027 to the address on page 7

INTENT

New clubs, because of their age, in many cases are not able to compete with older clubs. The Novice Club Award gives new clubs a chance to be recognized for their service. This award is an incentive for new clubs to serve their schools and communities to the best of their ability. No club may win this award more than once.

CRITERIA

1. To be eligible, a club must be no more than three years old as of the 2027 Leadership Training Conference. Age will be determined by the club's official charter date.
2. Clubs must complete the Annual Achievement Report Form (including all required signatures). The Annual Achievement Report form can be found here.
3. Submissions must be mailed to New York District Administrator John Goldstein at the address noted on page 7 postmarked no later than February 8, 2027.

MAJOR EMPHASIS PROGRAM AWARD

Must be postmarked no later than Monday, February 8, 2027 to the address on page 7

INTENT

The Major Emphasis Award is given to the Key Club which has produced the best Major Emphasis Project during the year through its unselfish efforts.

CRITERIA

1. The Major Emphasis Involvement Report Cover Sheet must be completed and signed, and must accompany the official entry report. The Major Emphasis Involvement Report Cover Sheet can be found here.
2. The entry report must be typed. Each section found in the judging section must begin on a new page with a heading that specifies the section being described. There is no word limit.
3. The described activity can cover any phase of Key Club Major Emphasis involvement specifically highlighting personal development and social interaction of children during the year from Leadership Training Conference to Leadership Training Conference. This report may include newspaper clippings, substantiating photographs, or other pertinent information. Acceptable projects may include both hands-on service and fundraising efforts.
4. To be eligible for the International contest, the report that wins the district contest must be received by the Key Club International office no later than the first Friday in May.

JUDGING

This award will be judged based on the following scoring system:

1. **Need (10 points) -** A statement must establish in what way the project deals with the Major Emphasis.
2. **Plan (10 points)** - Describe how the project was organized.
3. **Implementation (20 points)** - Describe the steps taken to implement the plan.
4. **Final results (20 points)** - Describe the benefits of the service rendered.
5. **Partnerships with the Kiwanis Family or other organizations (10 points)** - Describe actions and partnerships formed. Describe how the project was publicized.
6. **Percentage of Key Clubbers Participating (10 points)**

1% - 9% = 1 point	50% - 59% = 6 points
10% - 19% = 2 points	60% - 69% = 7 points
20% - 29% = 3 points	70% - 79% = 8 points
30% - 39% = 4 points	80% - 89% = 9 points
40% - 49% = 5 points	90% - 100% = 10 points

7. **Club's Overall Program Dealing with the Major Emphasis Program (20 points)** - Describe any other projects/programs your club implemented to address the Major Emphasis Program and how your club worked with the Major Emphasis Program during other parts of the year.

OUTSTANDING GOVERNOR'S PROJECT AWARD

Must be submitted online no later than Friday, February 12, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

INTENT

The Outstanding Governor's Project Award is presented to a club that has produced the best project dedicated to the service initiative selected by the District Governor during the Key Club year. The 2026-2027 District Governor's Project is "Pink Aid".

CRITERIA

1. Letter of Nomination - One letter of nomination from a fellow club, district officer, and/or sponsoring Kiwanis Club must be included. The nomination must include a brief summary describing how the club demonstrated a clear understanding of the goal of the Governor's Project as well as how the project brought distinction to their Key Club, school, and community.
2. Project Description - A typed report/description of the project completed must be included and may contain newspaper clippings, photographs, and other pertinent information.
    a. Be sure to include the number of dues-paying members in the club, the number of members who participated in the project, and the total number of service hours performed.

JUDGING

This award will be judged based on the following point system:

1. Complies with the criteria above **10 points (max.)**
2. Relevance to the Governor's Project **10 points**
3. Planning of the Project **20 points**
4. Implementation **20 points**
5. Final Results of the Project **20 points**
6. Percentage of club members participating **20 points**

1% - 9% = 2 points	50% - 59% = 12 points
10% - 19% = 4 points	60% - 69% = 14 points
20% - 29% = 6 points	70% - 79% = 16 points
30% - 39% = 8 points	80% - 89% = 18 points
40% - 49% = 10 points	90% - 100% = 20 points

KIWANIS FAMILY RELATIONS AWARD

Must be submitted online no later than Friday, February 12, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

INTENT

Kiwanis Family Relations play a vital role in the success of each Key Club and encourages communication and relationship building with other branches of the Kiwanis Family. The Kiwanis Family Relations Award goes to the club that has taken the greatest initiative to reach out to other branches of the K-Family.

CRITERIA

1. Each entry must include a typed "portfolio" (not to exceed twelve 8 ½ x 11 pages) with the following sections:
    a. Descriptions of joint service projects with Kiwanis Clubs
    b. Descriptions of joint service projects with Circle K Clubs, Builders Clubs, K-Kids Clubs, and Aktion Clubs
    c. Descriptions of sponsorships and club building of Builders Clubs, K-Kids Clubs, and Aktion Clubs
    d. Attendance at Kiwanis, Circle K, Builders Club, K-Kids, and Aktion Club meetings
2. The portfolio may include photographs, newspaper clippings, fliers, and any other pertinent information.
3. A cover letter, written by the president of the Key Club, confirming the club's K-Family involvement must also be included.

INTERCLUB AWARD

Must be submitted online no later than Friday, February 12, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

INTENT

Interclub is the act of participating in events throughout the year with other Key Clubs. This includes attending each other's meetings/projects, or taking part in coordinated events planned by multiple Key Clubs (e.g., multiple clubs planning and participating in a single initiative event within their specific communities on the same day), etc. (It **does not** include divisional meetings or events.) The Interclub Award accounts for planning and participating in a particular project.

CRITERIA

1. Submission must include a cover letter (not to exceed two pages, typed, double-spaced) jointly signed by the club presidents and advisors of each club involved. The cover letter must include:
    a. a description of the interclub project,
    b. the number of members involved in the planning and execution of the project,
    c. the causes the project supported (if any),
    d. the success of the project, and
    e. any other pertinent information.
2. A letter of confirmation signed by the respective Lieutenant Governor(s) must also be included. If there is a Lieutenant Governor vacancy in the division, please state so in the aforementioned cover letter.

JUDGING

Each application will be judged purely on the merit and success of the project, not the number of hours or amount of money raised.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARD

Must be postmarked no later than Monday, February 8, 2027 to the address on page 7

INTENT

Often the most successful clubs are the ones that make the most effective use of public relations. Service is important, but without public relations, it would be nearly impossible to organize and implement events. The Public Relations Award recognizes those clubs that have done an exceptional job at managing and disseminating information to the public about club activities and projects.

CRITERIA

1. Entries must be submitted in a binder, notebook, or portfolio form.
2. Entries must contain Public Relations materials utilized by the Key Club throughout the 2026-2027 service year. Include proof of all materials (actual documents or pictures of them, links to TV/radio coverage, etc.), dates of distribution for all material, and number of copies made of each material.

JUDGING

This award will be judged based on the following point structure:

1. Articles submitted to The Empire Key / District Publications **5 to 15 points**
2. Articles submitted to Lt. Governor's newsletters **5 to 15 points**
    a. If your division does not have a Lt. Governor, please mention that in your application
3. Club Newsletters / Spotlights **5 to 20 points**
4. Posters / Flyers **5 to 20 points**
    a. Printed and digital versions are acceptable
    b. Artistic value and visual appearance will be considered
5. Web Page / Media **5 to 30 points**
    a. Submissions to outside organizations/publications
    b. Social media outreach

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

DISTINGUISHED KEY CLUBBER AWARD

Must be submitted online no later than Friday, February 12, 2027 at 8:00 PM at https://dkc-app.nydkc.org/

INTENT

The Distinguished Key Clubber award is a non-competitive award for our most dedicated members who have gone above and beyond the call of duty, shown leadership throughout the service year, and promoted the core values of Key Club International. Members in good standing who have served their homes, schools, and communities to the best of their abilities and consistently worked throughout the service year are eligible to receive this award. Recipients will be recognized at the Leadership Training Conference and will receive a pin. This application has its own online portal which can be accessed at the link above.

CRITERIA

1. The application is split into four parts and each part is designed to focus of different aspects of Key Club. All parts of the application must be completed to be considered for the award.
    a. Part 1: Personal Statement
    b. Part 2: Mandatory Projects
    c. Part 3: Involvement
    d. Part 4: Projects, Advocacy, and Newsletter
2. If you experience technical difficulties, you must contact Awards Committee Co-Chairs, Division 12 Lieutenant Governor, Emma Lee (division12@nydkc.org) and Division 21 Lieutenant Governor Nozila Alibekova (division21@nydkc.org) by 8:00 pm EST on the night the application is due. Technical difficulties not reported by this time will not be honored. The earlier you notify the committee of any technical issues, the higher the likelihood of addressing them prior to the deadline.
3. By submitting this application, the applicant attests that all information is accurate and that the information provided is their own work. Please describe events in your own words. Any form of plagiarism or dishonesty will DISQUALIFY the application.
4. All applications are subject to be disqualified as deemed appropriate by the District Administrator.
5. For all events, please include the number of service hours, the cause or charity that was helped the date and location of the event, and a short description.
6. Applicants of the Outstanding Key Club Member Awards and Outstanding/Distinguished Key Club Officer Awards must complete the DKC application prior to their respective applications.

DISTINGUISHED KEY CLUB MEMBER AWARD

Must be submitted online no later than Friday, February 12, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

INTENT

The Distinguished Key Club Member Award is presented each year to a member who is not an elected club, district, or international officer who has carried out their Key Club duties in a distinguished manner. One Distinguished Key Club Member Award is presented in each grade level – Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior.

CRITERIA

1. Only one member per class year per club may be nominated for this award. If a club nominates more than one applicant for any class year, all applicants in that class will be disqualified.
2. The nominee cannot have held an elected club, district, or international office during the administrative year in which they are being nominated.
3. The applicant must be nominated by their home Key Club and/or sponsoring Kiwanis club and a letter of nomination, including the following, must be included with the award submission:
    a. The nominee's name, high school, and number of years the nominee has been involved in Key Club International
    b. A brief summary of the outstanding work performed by the member, explaining how the nominee:
        i. Serves their community in an outstanding manner, and
        ii. Brings distinction to themselves, the local Key Club, and/or the District
4. One letter of recommendation (in addition to the letter of nomination) must be included. The nominator cannot also submit a letter of recommendation. Doing so will result in the application being disqualified.
5. Attestation that the nominee has:
    a. Attended at least 60% of all home club meetings, and
    b. Performed at least 60 hours of community service.
6. Completion of a minimum of four (4) of the following:
    a. Attendance at the 2026 Leadership Training Conference (virtual or in-person)
    b. Attendance at the 2026 Key Club International Convention (virtual or in-person)
    c. Attendance at the applicant's Divisional Training Conference and/or Fall Rally during the 2026-2027 Key Club year
    d. Attendance at a minimum of one meeting (virtual or in-person) of the sponsoring Kiwanis club
    e. Participation in at least one interclub event (e.g., an event with another Key Club – virtual or in-person)
    f. Participation in at least one K-Family event (e.g., an event with another branch of the K-Family other than Key Club – virtual or in-person)
    g. Served on a committee or chair of a club project during the 2026-2027 Key Club year
    h. Attendance at a minimum of two divisionals (virtual or in-person), or proof that meeting this requirement was beyond their means
    i. Submission of at least one article to The Empire Key, the online Service Spotlight, divisional newsletter, or home club's newsletter (attach copies as proof)
    j. A personal statement not to exceed 500 words that explains how the applicant has gone above and beyond the call of duty. The personal statement should only include information that does not appear elsewhere in this application.

DISTINGUISHED KEY CLUB PRESIDENT AWARD

Must be submitted online no later than Friday, February 12, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

INTENT

The Distinguished Key Club President Award is presented each year to the Key Club President who has gone above and beyond the call of duty and has done an exceptional job in executing the duties of their office. One Distinguished Key Club President may be presented; all others who apply and meet the required criteria will be recognized as "Outstanding".

CRITERIA

1. The applicant must be nominated by an officer of their home club and a letter of nomination, including the following, must be included with the award submission:
    a. The nominee's name, high school, and number of years the nominee has been involved in Key Club International
    b. A description of the nominee's character and highlights of their accomplishments as club president
2. One letter of recommendation (in addition to the letter of nomination) must be included from one of the following: a member of the nominee's sponsoring Kiwanis club, the nominee's faculty advisor, or the nominee's Lieutenant Governor. The nominator cannot also submit a letter of recommendation. Doing so will result in the application being disqualified.
3. Attestation that the nominee has:
    a. Ensured that all club report forms (ERF, FRF, MRF, and Annual Achievement Report) have been submitted on time
    b. Ensured that dues were paid on time for a minimum of 11 members
    c. Attended at least 85% of club meetings
    d. Ensured the club has members in attendance at a majority of divisionals
    e. Performed at least 60 hours of community service
4. Completion of a minimum of six (6) of the following (event attendance may be virtual or in-person):
    a. Attendance at the President's workshop at the 2026 Leadership Training Conference
    b. Attendance at the President's Workshop (or equivalent) at the 2026 Key Club International Convention
    c. Attendance at the applicant's Divisional Training Conference and/or Fall Rally
    d. Attendance at a minimum of two meetings of the sponsoring Kiwanis club
    e. Participation in at least two interclub or K-Family events (e.g., an event with another Key Club or with other branches of the K-Family other than Key Club
    f. Club has a net membership increase of at least 5% over the previous year
    g. Involvement of the club in community service projects. Please include descriptions of events
    h. Ensured club members attended at least two meetings of their sponsoring Kiwanis club
    i. Attendance at a minimum of 60% of divisionals, or proof that meeting this requirement was beyond the nominee's means
    k. Submission of at least one article to The Empire Key, the online Service Spotlight, divisional newsletter, or home club's newsletter (attach copies as proof)
    j. A personal statement not to exceed 500 words that explains how the applicant has gone above and beyond the call of duty. The personal statement should only include information that does not appear elsewhere in this application.

DISTINGUISHED KEY CLUB VICE PRESIDENT AWARD

Must be submitted online no later than Friday, February 12, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

INTENT

The Distinguished Key Club Vice President Award is presented each year to the Key Club Vice President who has gone above and beyond the call of duty and has done an exceptional job in executing the duties of their office. One Distinguished Key Club Vice President may be presented; all others who apply and meet the required criteria will be recognized as "Outstanding".

CRITERIA

1. The applicant must be nominated by a member in good standing of Key Club International and a letter of nomination, including the following, must be included with the award submission:
    a. The nominee's name, high school, and number of years the nominee has been involved in Key Club International
    b. A description of the nominee's character and highlights of their accomplishments as club vice president
2. One letter of recommendation (in addition to the letter of nomination) must be included from a member of the nominee's sponsoring Kiwanis club, the nominee's faculty advisor, or the president of the nominee's Key Club. The nominator cannot also submit a letter of recommendation. Doing so will result in the application being disqualified.
3. Attestation that the nominee has:
    a. Ensured that all club report forms (ERF, FRF, MRF, and Annual Achievement Report) have been submitted on time
    b. Ensured that dues were paid on time for a minimum of 11 members
    c. Attended at least 85% of club meetings
    d. Ensured the club has members in attendance at a majority of divisionals
    e. Performed at least 60 hours of community service
4. Completion of a minimum of six (6) of the following (event attendance may be virtual or in-person):
    a. Attendance at the Vice Presidents workshop at the 2026 Leadership Training Conference
    b. Attendance at the Vice Presidents workshop (or equivalent) at the 2026 Key Club International Convention
    c. Attendance at the applicant's Divisional Training Conference and/or Fall Rally
    d. Attendance at a minimum of two meetings of the sponsoring Kiwanis club (virtual or in-person)
    e. Participation in at least two interclub or K-Family events (e.g., an event with another Key Club or with other branches of the K-Family other than Key Club - virtual or in-person)
    f. Club has a net membership increase of at least 5% over the previous year
    g. Involvement of the club in community service projects. Please include descriptions of events.
    h. Ensured club members attended at least two meetings of their sponsoring Kiwanis club (virtual or in-person)
    i. Attendance at a minimum of 60% of divisionals (virtual or in-person), or proof that meeting this requirement was beyond the nominee's means
    j. Submission of at least one article to The Empire Key, the online Service Spotlight, divisional newsletter, or home club's newsletter (attach copies as proof)
    k. A personal statement not to exceed 500 words that explains how the applicant has gone above and beyond the call of duty. The personal statement should only include information that does not appear elsewhere in this application.

DISTINGUISHED KEY CLUB SECRETARY AWARD

Must be submitted online no later than Friday, February 12, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

INTENT

The Distinguished Key Club Secretary Award is presented each year to the Key Club Secretary who has gone above and beyond the call of duty and has done an exceptional job in executing the duties of their office. One Distinguished Key Club Secretary may be presented; all others who apply and meet the required criteria will be recognized as "Outstanding".

CRITERIA

1. The applicant must be nominated by a member in good standing of Key Club International and a letter of nomination, including the following, must be included with the award submission:
    a. The nominee's name, high school, and number of years the nominee has been involved in Key Club International
    b. A description of the nominee's character and highlights of their accomplishments as club secretary
2. One letter of recommendation (in addition to the letter of nomination) must be included from a member of the nominee's sponsoring Kiwanis club, the nominee's faculty advisor, or the president of the nominee's Key Club. The nominator cannot also submit a letter of recommendation. Doing so will result in the application being disqualified.
3. Submission of samples of the nominee's work:
    a. Minutes of at least five (5) club meetings **(in one .pdf file)**
    b. Roster of club members
    c. Minimum of three (3) Monthly Report Forms **(in one .pdf file)**
4. Attestation that the nominee has:
    a. Ensured that all club report forms (ERF, FRF, MRF, and Annual Achievement Report) have been submitted on time
    b. Attended at least 85% of club meetings
    c. Performed at least 60 hours of community service
5. Completion of a minimum of five (5) of the following (event attendance may be virtual or in-person):
    a. Attendance at the Secretaries workshop at the 2026 Leadership Training Conference
    b. Attendance at the Secretaries workshop at the 2026 Key Club International Convention
    c. Attendance at the applicant's Divisional Training Conference and/or Fall Rally
    d. Attendance at a minimum of two meetings of the sponsoring Kiwanis club (virtual or in-person)
    e. Participation in at least one interclub or K-Family events (e.g., an event with another Key Club or with other branches of the K-Family other than Key Club - virtual or in-person)
    f. Involvement of the club in community service projects. Please include descriptions of events.
    g. Submission of at least one article to The Empire Key, the online Service Spotlight, divisional newsletter, or home club's newsletter (attach copies as proof)
    h. A personal statement not to exceed 500 words that explains how the applicant has gone above and beyond the call of duty. The personal statement should only include information that does not appear elsewhere in this application.

DISTINGUISHED KEY CLUB TREASURER AWARD

Must be submitted online no later than Friday, February 12, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

INTENT

The Distinguished Key Club Treasurer Award is presented each year to the Key Club Treasurer who has gone above and beyond the call of duty and has done an exceptional job in executing the duties of their office. One Distinguished Key Club Treasurer may be presented; all others who apply and meet the required criteria will be recognized as "Outstanding".

CRITERIA

1. The applicant must be nominated by a member in good standing of Key Club International and a letter of nomination, including the following, must be included with the award submission:
    a. The nominee's name, high school, and number of years the nominee has been involved in Key Club International
    b. A description of the nominee's character and highlights of their accomplishments as club treasurer
2. One letter of recommendation (in addition to the letter of nomination) must be included from a member of the nominee's sponsoring Kiwanis club, the nominee's faculty advisor, or the president of the nominee's Key Club. The nominator cannot also submit a letter of recommendation. Doing so will result in the application being disqualified.
3. The nominee must have prepared regular written financial reports and must submit an example with the application.
4. Attestation that the nominee has:
    a. Ensured that both International and District dues were paid by the regular deadline (proof must be submitted with the application)
    b. Attended at least 85% of club meetings
    c. Performed at least 60 hours of community service
5. Completion of a minimum of six (6) of the following (event attendance may be virtual or in-person):
    a. Attendance at the Treasurers workshop at the 2026 Leadership Training Conference
    b. Attendance at the Treasurers workshop (or equivalent) at the 2026 Key Club International Convention
    c. Attendance at the applicant's Divisional Training Conference and/or Fall Rally
    d. Attendance at a minimum of two divisional meetings (virtual or in-person)
    e. Participation in at least one interclub or K-Family event (e.g., an event with another Key Club or with other branches of the K-Family other than Key Club - virtual or in-person)
    f. Attendance at a minimum of two meetings of the sponsoring Kiwanis club (virtual or in-person)
    g. Club has a net membership increase of at least 5% over the previous year
    h. Submission of International and District dues for a minimum of 11 members by the Early Bird Deadline – November 1, 2026 (must attach proof)
    i. Submitted an application to Key Club International's Youth Opportunities Fund grant program
    j. Provide samples of up to two (2) submitted Financial Report Forms
    k. A personal statement not to exceed 500 words that explains how the applicant has gone above and beyond the call of duty. The personal statement should only include information that does not appear elsewhere in this application.

DISTINGUISHED KEY CLUB BULLETIN EDITOR AWARD

Must be submitted online no later than Friday, February 12, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

INTENT

The Distinguished Key Club Bulletin Editor Award is presented each year to the Key Club Bulletin Editor who has gone above and beyond the call of duty and has done an exceptional job in executing the duties of their office. One Distinguished Key Club Bulletin Editor may be presented; all others who apply and meet the required criteria will be recognized as "Outstanding".

CRITERIA

1. The applicant must be nominated by member in good standing of Key Club International and a letter of nomination, including the following, must be included with the award submission:
    a. The nominee's name, high school, and number of years the nominee has been involved in Key Club International
    b. A description of the nominee's character and highlights of their accomplishments as club bulletin editor
2. One letter of recommendation (in addition to the letter of nomination) must be included from a member of the nominee's sponsoring Kiwanis club, the nominee's faculty advisor, or the president of the nominee's Key Club. The nominator cannot also submit a letter of recommendation. Doing so will result in the application being disqualified.
3. Attestation that the nominee has:
    a. Produced a minimum of seven newsletters or bulletins in 8.5" x 11" format. Division updates, district updates, and Service Spotlights should be included
    b. Attended at least 85% of club meetings
    c. Distributed club newsletters to all club members
    d. Performed at least 60 hours of community service
4. Completion of a minimum of six (6) of the following (event attendance may be virtual or in-person):
    a. Attendance at the Bulletin Editors workshop at the 2026 Leadership Training Conference
    b. Attendance at the Bulletin Editors workshop (or equivalent) at the 2026 Key Club International Convention
    c. Attendance at the applicant's Divisional Training Conference and/or Fall Rally
    d. Attendance at a minimum of two divisional meetings (virtual or in-person)
    e. Participation in at least one interclub or K-Family event (e.g., an event with another Key Club or with other branches of the K-Family other than Key Club - virtual or in-person)
    f. Serve as a member on a minimum of one club, district, or International committee
    g. Attendance at a minimum of one meeting of the sponsoring Kiwanis club (virtual or in-person)
    h. Included International events in all newsletters and/or bulletins
    i. Submission of at least two articles to The Empire Key, the online Service Spotlight, divisional newsletter, or home club's newsletter (attach copies as proof)
    j. A personal statement not to exceed 500 words that explains how the applicant has gone above and beyond the call of duty. The personal statement should only include information that does not appear elsewhere in this application.

DISTINGUISHED KEY CLUB WEBMASTER AWARD

Must be submitted online no later than Friday, February 12, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

INTENT

The Distinguished Key Club Webmaster Award is presented each year to the Key Club Webmaster who has gone above and beyond the call of duty and has done an exceptional job in executing the duties of their office. One Distinguished Key Club Bulletin Editor may be presented; all others who apply and meet the required criteria will be recognized as "Outstanding".

CRITERIA

1. The applicant must be nominated by a member in good standing of Key Club International and a letter of nomination, including the following, must be included with the award submission:
    a. The nominee's name, high school, and number of years the nominee has been involved in Key Club International
    b. A description of the nominee's character and highlights of their accomplishments as club webmaster
2. One letter of recommendation (in addition to the letter of nomination) must be included from a member of the nominee's sponsoring Kiwanis club, the nominee's faculty advisor, or the president of the nominee's Key Club. The nominator cannot also submit a letter of recommendation. Doing so will result in the application being disqualified.
3. A minimum of four website updates must be produced:
    a. Local club, division, and district updates and events are to be included
    b. Printouts of these updates must be included in the nominee's application
4. Attestation that the nominee has:
    a. Attended at least 85% of club meetings
    b. Performed at least 60 hours of community service
5. Completion of a minimum of six (6) of the following (event attendance may be virtual or in-person):
    a. Attendance at the Webmasters workshop at the 2026 Leadership Training Conference
    b. Attendance at the Webmasters workshop (or equivalent) at the 2026 Key Club International Convention
    c. Attendance at the applicant's Divisional Training Conference and/or Fall Rally
    d. Attendance at a minimum of two divisional meetings (virtual or in-person)
    e. Participation in at least one interclub or K-Family event (e.g., an event with another Key Club or with other branches of the K-Family other than Key Club - virtual or in-person)
    f. Serve as a member on a minimum of one club, district, or International committee
    g. Attendance at a minimum of one meeting of the sponsoring Kiwanis club (virtual or in-person)
    h. Inclusion of International events on the club website
    i. Utilization of social media platforms for your club
    j. Submission of at least two articles to The Empire Key, the online Service Spotlight, divisional newsletter, or home club's newsletter (attach copies as proof)
    k. A personal statement not to exceed 500 words that explains how the applicant has gone above and beyond the call of duty. The personal statement should only include information that does not appear elsewhere in this application.

DISTINGUISHED FACULTY ADVISOR AWARD

Must be submitted online no later than Friday, February 12, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

INTENT

First presented in 1962, this award was established to recognize an adult who has gone above and beyond the call of duty in serving the youth of the New York District. This award is presented to a faculty advisor who has rendered the most outstanding contribution to a Key Club in the New York District during the administrative year.

Only one faculty advisor may be nominated from a Key Club each year. The entry of more than one faculty advisor from a Key Club will cause all nominated faculty advisors from that club to be disqualified from consideration. Individuals may not receive this award more than once per five years.

CRITERIA

1. Must be nominated by a Key Club and/or a Kiwanis club.
    a. The nomination letter must contain the nominee's name, school's address, high school, and years involved with Key Club.
    b. The letter must include a brief summary of the outstanding work rendered by the faculty advisor explaining how the nominee meets the following criteria:
        i. Demonstrates a genuine attitude of warmth, understanding, and caring in the day-to-day dealing with Key Clubbers.
        ii. Enthusiastically provides services to youth far and above the call of duty.
        iii. Brings distinction to themself, the local Key Club, and/or the district through their actions or performance in assisting Key Club and the growth of its members.
2. Two letters of recommendation (in addition to the letter of nomination) from each of the following:
    a. One from the school principal (which must also verify that the nominee has held the position since the beginning of the school year)
    b. One from the sponsoring Kiwanis club **or** one from a member of the Key Club

DISTINGUISHED KIWANIS ADVISOR AWARD

Must be submitted online no later than Friday, February 12, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

INTENT

This award was established to recognize a Kiwanian who has gone above and beyond the call of duty in serving the youth of the New York District. This award is presented to a Kiwanis Advisor who has rendered the most outstanding contribution to a Key Club in the New York District during the administrative year.

Only one Kiwanis advisor may be nominated from a Key Club each year. The entry of more than one Kiwanis advisor from a Key Club will cause all nominated faculty advisors from that club to be disqualified from consideration. Individuals may not receive this award more than once per five years.

CRITERIA

1. Must be nominated by a Key Club and/or a Kiwanis club.
    a. The letter of nomination must contain the nominee's name, address, Kiwanis club, and years involved with Key Club.
    b. The letter of nomination must include a brief summary of the outstanding work rendered by the Kiwanian explaining how the nominee meets the following criteria:
        i. Demonstrates a genuine attitude of warmth, understanding, and caring in the day-to-day dealing with Key Clubbers.
        ii. Enthusiastically provides services to youth far and above the call of duty.
        iii. Brings distinction to themself, the local Key Club, and/or the district through their actions or performance in assisting Key Club and the growth of its members.
2. Two letters of recommendation (in addition to the letter of nomination) from the following:
    a. One from a Kiwanis officer (which must include verification that the nominee is the Kiwanis advisor and has held that position since the beginning of the Kiwanis administrative year).
    b. One from an officer of the Key Club **or** one from a member of the Key Club

DOUG MADENBERG AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

Must be postmarked no later than Monday, February 8, 2027 to the address on page 7

The Doug Madenberg Award for Excellence is sponsored by the *New York Key Club Foundation* and is a way of recognizing the outstanding contributions of Key Clubbers, faculty advisors, principals, parents, Kiwanians, or anyone else whose time and efforts have had a positive impact on Key Club in the New York District. The award is named after Doug Madenberg, the first Key Club International President from New York, in honor of his service to this district and this organization. For a **tax-deductible contribution** of $250.00, you can have someone added to the rolls of Madenberg recipients and further assist the operations of Key Club in the New York District. A Madenberg Award is a great way to thank someone for everything they have done for Key Club while helping the district. Madenberg recipients will receive an attractive and exclusive lapel pin (pictured below) to distinguish them as having received this recognition. To secure a Doug Madenberg Award for Excellence, please complete the order form below.



DOUG MADENBERG AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE ORDER FORM

Is this a surprise? Yes ____ No ____

Name of Recipient: _____

Recipient's Club Name: _____ Division #: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Name of Donor: _____

Donor's Club Name: _____ Division #: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Checks should be made payable to: **New York Key Club Foundation**. Mail donation and completed form postmarked no later than Monday, February 8, 2027 to:

Mr. John Goldstein
590 Mullock Road
Port Jervis, NY 12771
Attn: Madenberg Award

CONTESTS

DIGITAL SCRAPBOOK CONTEST

Must be submitted online no later than Friday, February 12, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

CRITERIA

1. A Key Club may only enter one of the three Scrapbook contests (traditional, non-traditional, or digital). Failure to comply with this rule will result in the disqualification of all entries.
2. A Key Club may enter a digital scrapbook or composition of other media containing pictures, souvenirs, newspaper clippings, or other representations of its activities during the club administrative year (defined as being from April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027).
3. The entry should be developed using a personal computer, digital or scanned photos and/or computer graphics software.
4. Each entry should adequately portray the following categories: Service to School, Service to Community, Fundraising Projects, Kiwanis Family Interaction, Major Emphasis Involvement, and Miscellaneous. (The Major Emphasis theme, "Children: Their Future, Our Focus" is detailed on page 44 of the Key Club Guidebook.)
5. Pages must be numbered with a Table of Contents included at the beginning of the scrapbook. Judges will deduct five points for missing tabs and will deduct five points for a missing Table of Contents.
6. Each entry is required to be submitted in PDF format and cannot be greater than 100 MB in size.
7. The Scrapbook Year in Review Report must be filled out, signed, and submitted with a working link or pdf file of the scrapbook. If this form is not submitted with the digital scrapbook, ten points will be deducted. This form must be signed by the Key Club president and Faculty Advisor stating the scrapbook's retail cost value (including photographic materials, equipment, and/or software) does not exceed US$300. Work done by Key Club members such as hand-lettering, artwork, etc., need not be included as cost items. The year in review form can be found here.
8. First, second, and third place awards may be presented. Only the first- and second-place district winners will be eligible to represent the New York District in the Digital Scrapbook contest at International Convention.

JUDGING

The winners will be selected based on this point system:

Visuals **(30 points)**

1. Artwork and decorations	**15 Points**
2. News articles and photos	**15 Points**

General Content **(80 points)**

1. Service to school	**20 Points**
2. Service to community	**20 Points**
3. Fundraising Projects	**10 Points**
4. Assistance to Kiwanis Projects	**10 Points**
5. Involvement with Major Emphasis Program	**10 Points**
6. Organization: Table of Contents	**5 Points**
7. Miscellaneous	**5 Points**

TRADITIONAL SCRAPBOOK CONTEST

Must be brought to the Leadership Training Conference for judging

CRITERIA

1. A Key Club may only enter one of the three Scrapbook contests (traditional, non-traditional, or digital). Failure to comply with this rule will result in the disqualification of all entries.
2. A Key Club may enter a scrapbook containing pictures, souvenirs, newspaper clippings, etc., of its activities during the club administrative year (defined as being from April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027). Each scrapbook must be subdivided into the following categories: Service to School, Service to Community, Fundraising Projects, Kiwanis Family Interaction, Major Emphasis Involvement, and Miscellaneous.
3. Each category must be separated accordingly by tabs. In other words, the first page of each section must have a small tab affixed to the page on which the name of the section is written. The tabs should be visible when the book is open, but not protrude from the side when it is closed.
4. Pages must be numbered with a Table of Contents included at the beginning of the scrapbook. Judges will deduct five points for missing tabs and will deduct five points for a missing Table of Contents.
5. Each entry is required to be submitted in a scrapbook binder measuring no larger than 14 inches wide by 14 inches high. The cover may be decorated.
6. The Year in Review Contest Entry form must be filled out, signed, and affixed to the inside front cover of the scrapbook. If this form is not affixed to the front inside cover of the scrapbook, ten points will be deducted. This form must be signed by the Key Club president and Faculty Advisor stating the scrapbook's retail cost value (including photographic materials) does not exceed US$300. The year in review form can be found here.
7. No audio, visual, or computer equipment will be allowed as part of the entry. The entry must be sturdy to allow for shipping and handling by judges as necessary.
8. First, second, and third place awards may be presented. First and second place winners will be eligible to represent the New York District in the Traditional Scrapbook Contest at International Convention.

JUDGING

The winners will be selected based on this point system:

Visuals **(30 points)**

1. Artwork and decorations	**15 Points**
2. News articles and photos	**15 Points**

General Content **(80 points)**

1. Service to school	**20 Points**
2. Service to community	**20 Points**
3. Fundraising Projects	**10 Points**
4. Assistance to Kiwanis Projects	**10 Points**
5. Involvement with Major Emphasis Program	**10 Points**
6. Organization: Table of Contents	**5 Points**
7. Miscellaneous	**5 Points**

NON-TRADITIONAL SCRAPBOOK CONTEST

Must be brought to the Leadership Training Conference for judging

CRITERIA

1. A Key Club may only enter one of the three Scrapbook contests (traditional, non-traditional, or digital). Failure to comply with this rule will result in the disqualification of all entries.
2. A Key Club may enter a non-traditional scrapbook or composition of other media containing pictures, souvenirs, newspaper clippings, or other representations of its activities during the club administrative year (defined as being from April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027).
3. Each entry should adequately portray the following categories: Service to School, Service to Community, Fundraising Projects, Kiwanis Family Interaction, Major Emphasis Involvement, and Miscellaneous.
4. The Year in Review Contest Entry form must be filled out, signed, and affixed to the inside front cover of the scrapbook. If this form is not affixed to the front inside cover of the scrapbook, ten points will be deducted. This form must be signed by the Key Club president and Faculty Advisor stating the scrapbook's retail cost value (including photographic materials) does not exceed US$300. Work done by Key Club members such as hand-lettering, artwork, etc., need not be included as cost items. The year in review form can be found here.
5. No audio, visual, or computer equipment will be allowed as part of the entry. The entry must be sturdy to allow handling by judges as necessary.
6. First, second, and third place awards may be presented. (Note: Key Club International is not offering the Non-Traditional Scrapbook Contest at International Convention.)

JUDGING

The winners will be selected based on this point system:

Presentation **(70 points)**

1. Uniqueness/creativity of project presentation	**30 Points**
2. Artistic value and visual appearance	**20 Points**
3. Newspaper clippings and photographs	**20 Points**

General Content **(60 points)**

1. Service to school	**10 Points**
2. Service to community	**10 Points**
3. Fundraising Projects	**10 Points**
4. Kiwanis Family Interaction	**10 Points**
5. Involvement with Major Emphasis Program	**10 Points**
6. Miscellaneous	**10 Points**

CLUB NON-DIGITAL POSTER CONTEST

Must be brought to the Leadership Training Conference for judging

CRITERIA

1. A Key Club may not enter both the Non-Digital and Digital Poster contests. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the disqualification of both entries.
2. The poster should be designed to recruit new members for Key Club and should not bear the name of any school, community, or district. It must be in good taste and appropriate to the standards set by the Objectives of Key Club International.
3. The poster dimensions should be 18 inches by 24 inches, with the actual height and width not varying more than one-half inch from the prescribed contest dimensions. The poster should not measure more than one-eighth inch in thickness.
4. The non-digital poster may not include material produced through electronic means, such as cameras and computer software.
5. The Poster Contest Entry form must be filled out and signed, and must accompany the non-digital poster submission. The poster contest entry form can be found here.
6. Although a poster will not be selected based on its ability to be reproduced, keep in mind that a printer friendly poster is more likely to be circulated following Leadership Training Conference (and International Convention, if applicable) than one that is difficult to reproduce.
7. First, second, and third place awards may be presented. The first place winner will be eligible to represent the New York District in the Non-Digital Poster Contest at International Convention.

JUDGING

The winners will be selected based on this point system:

1. Originality / Creativity **50 points**
2. Effectiveness for member recruitment **25 points**
3. Appearance and artistic expression **25 points**

CLUB DIGITAL POSTER CONTEST

Must be brought to the Leadership Training Conference for judging

CRITERIA

1. A Key Club may not enter both the Non-Digital and Digital Poster contests. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the disqualification of both entries.
2. The poster should be designed to recruit new members for Key Club and should not bear the name of any school, community, or district. It must be in good taste and appropriate to the standards set by the Objectives of Key Club International.
3. The poster dimensions should be 18 inches by 24 inches, with the actual height and width not varying more than one-half inch from the prescribed contest dimensions. The poster should not measure more than one-eighth inch in thickness.
4. The digital poster may include material produced through electronic means, such as cameras and computer software.
5. The Poster Contest Entry form must be filled out and signed, and must accompany the non-digital poster submission. The poster contest entry form can be found here.
6. Although a poster will not be selected based on its ability to be reproduced, keep in mind that a printer friendly poster is more likely to be circulated following Leadership Training Conference (and International Convention, if applicable) than one that is difficult to reproduce.
7. First, second, and third place awards may be presented. The first place winner will be eligible to represent the New York District in the Digital Poster Contest at International Convention.

JUDGING

The winners will be selected based on this point system:

1. Originality / Creativity **50 points**
2. Effectiveness for member recruitment **25 points**
3. Appearance and artistic expression **25 points**

CLUB VIDEO CONTEST

Must be submitted online no later than Friday, February 12, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

CRITERIA

1. The Video Contest Entry form must be filled out and signed, and must accompany the video submission. The video contest entry form can be found here.
2. The video must be produced by club members at a cost not to exceed $300.
3. The video should be promotional for Key Club as an organization and/or Key Club within its respective school/community. It should be in good taste and appropriate to the standards set by the Objects of Key Club International.
4. The length of the video may not be more than 60 seconds.
5. The video must be submitted as a link to a YouTube video. If you do not have a YouTube account, you can create one for free using a Google account.
6. The video may not include any copyrighted music. Royalty-free music is available on websites such as: https://www.youtube.com/c/audiolibrary-channel. Other sites can be found by searching for "royalty free music".
7. First, second, and third place awards may be presented. The first place winner will be eligible to represent the New York District in the Club Promotional Video Contest at International Convention.

JUDGING

The winners will be selected based on this point system:

1. Originality / Creativity **10 points**
2. Promotion of Key Club **20 points**
3. Clarity of Message **20 points**
4. Quality of Production
    a. Sound quality **10 points**
    b. Picture quality **10 points**
5. Overall Impression **30 points**

CLUB APPAREL CONTEST

Must be submitted online no later than Friday, February 12, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

INTENT

Key Clubbers often strive to promote Key Club International through apparel. The Club Apparel Award recognizes a club which creates an outstanding T-Shirt, Sweatshirt, or Hoodie design that promotes Key Club in a positive and effective manner. Clubs may submit only one design per year. Entries of more than one will disqualify all submissions from that club.

First, second, and third place winners will be announced during the Leadership Training Conference.

CRITERIA

1. The following information must be submitted with each entry:
    a. A .pdf file containing the design on the front, back, and base color of the T-shirt, sweatshirt, or hoodie OR a working link to the design of the T-shirt, sweatshirt, or hoodie online.
    b. The text contained on the front and back of the shirt. If the shirt contains text anywhere else, please list it and specify the location.
2. The shirt must:
    a. Promote the home club, the New York District, and/or Key Club International.
    b. Contain text and graphics. All text and graphics must be in good taste and appropriate to the standards set by the Objects of Key Club International.

JUDGING

The winners will be selected based on this point system:

1.	Originality / Creativity	**20 points**
2.	Effectiveness for Member Recruitment and/or Promotion of Key Club	**20 points**
3.	Overall Appearance / Artistic Impression	**10 points**

TALENT CONTEST

Talent Contest Auditions will be held during the Leadership Training Conference (time and location to be announced)

Sign up online no later than Friday, March 5, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

INTENT

The Talent Contest is held annually at the Leadership Training Conference to showcase the outstanding talent that exists within the New York District of Key Club International. Acts will be required to demonstrate their ability and entertainment appeal at preliminary auditions (time and place to be announced). The most entertaining acts will be selected to perform during the conference.

CRITERIA

1. A Talent Contest entry may take any form as long as it is entertaining and in good taste.
2. Acts may be no more than five minutes in length. (Acts which exceed five minutes will be disqualified.)
3. All participants in an act must be official members of a Key Club in good standing with the New York District and Key Club International.
4. All contestants must provide any materials (props, instruments, costumes, etc.) that are needed for their own performance. The New York District is not responsible for providing any materials for acts.

JUDGING

Performance selections will be based on the following point system:

1.	Content	**20 Points**
2.	Performance and Entertainment Value	**30 Points**
3.	Poise and Confidence	**10 Points**
4.	Audience Response	**20 Points**
5.	Personal Evaluation	**20 Points**

ORATORICAL CONTEST

Oratorical Contest Auditions will be held during the Leadership Training Conference (time and location to be announced)

Sign up online no later than Friday, March 5, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

The 2026-2027 Oratorical Contest Topic is the following:

Small acts of service can create meaningful change in the lives of others. How can seemingly small acts of kindness, service, or leadership create a monumental impact in our communities and beyond? Reflect on the power of individual action and explore how seemingly ordinary choices can contribute to meaningful and lasting change.

CRITERIA

1. The subject matter of the oration and the presentation must be original and completely developed by each orator. Content and presentation will be considered equally in judging.
2. Each orator is permitted a maximum of five minutes for their presentation. Exceeding the time limit by 10 seconds or more will result in a penalty unless extenuating circumstances exist.
3. During the conference, elimination trials will be held (time and place to be announced at the conference).
4. Up to three orators may be recognized for their efforts (one winner and two honorable mentions). The Oratorical winner will address the conference at a General Session, and is eligible to represent the New York District in the Oratorical Contest at the Key Club International convention.
5. Each orator must be an official Key Club member in good standing with the New York District and Key Club International, and the orator's home club must also be in good standing with the New York District and Key Club International.

JUDGING

The winners will be selected based on this point system:

Speech **(50 points)**:

1. Clarity of message and projection of ideas	**15 Points**
2. Structure (including organization, grammar, transitions, flow, etc.)	**15 Points**
3. Depth	**5 Points**
4. Originality	**15 Points**

Delivery **(50 points)**:

1. Presence (posture, gestures, and ability to engage the audience)	**15 Points**
2. Voice (tone, diction, effectiveness, pronunciation)	**15 Points**
3. Ease of presentation & intimacy with audience	**15 Points**
4. Attention of audience	**5 points**

SCHOLARSHIPS

GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARSHIP

Must be submitted online no later than Friday, February 12, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

INTENT

The Governor's Scholarship is available to any college-bound New York District Key Club member in good standing. The scholarship will reward those Key Clubbers who go beyond the call of service and who recognizes the importance of the Governor's Project. Up to two (2) scholarship winners will be announced at the annual Leadership Training Conference. Winners will be given a $1,000 check made out in their name and the educational institution they will be attending. The Governor and the District Administrator, and/or a special committee appointed by the District Administrator, will choose the recipient(s) of the Governor's Scholarship. A minimum of one and a maximum of two $1,000 scholarships will be granted.

CRITERIA

1. Candidate must provide a copy of their current high school transcript.
2. Proof of at least 60 hours of service to home, school, and community (verified by the Key Club president and faculty advisor)
3. Submission of a minimum of two (2) and maximum of five (5) recommendation letters (one must be from the faculty or Kiwanis advisor)
4. Candidate must submit a brief essay (no more than 200 words) addressing one of the following:
    a. Describe the importance of this year's Governor's Project, "Pink Aid".
    b. Describe the importance of a project that the candidate participated in which is related to this year's Governor's Project, "Pink Aid".

KIWANIS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Must be submitted online no later than Friday, February 12, 2027 at 8:00 PM at www.tinyurl.com/KeyClubAwards

INTENT

Kiwanis has been our greatest source of support and guidance. They have encouraged us to continue our dedication to community service and to embrace the ideals of our organization. They strive to help Key Club members appreciate the many benefits that Key Club has to offer. The Kiwanis Memorial Scholarship awards $1,000 to assist with the collegiate career of an active Key Clubber who aspires to make Key Club a more inclusive organization. With this scholarship, we continue the work of the dedicated Kiwanis members who educate and guide us.

CRITERIA

1. The applicant must have a minimum of two-year involvement (dues paid) with Key Club.
2. The applicant should exhibit a dedication to the ideals of Key Club in daily living and support of Key Club projects.
3. The applicant must be a college bound high school senior who is planning on pursuing a career that is involved with children.
4. The applicant must submit an essay between 250 and 500 words that answers the following question: **"Describe one way in which Key Club has assisted you or given you an opportunity to make an impact on someone's life, your school and/or community."**
5. The applicant's essay must be signed by their home club faculty advisor and/or Kiwanis advisor. By signing the essay, the advisor acknowledges that its contents are authentic and accurate.
6. The applicant must also include two brief letters of recommendation from the following:
    a. their faculty **or** Kiwanis advisor, and
    b. a club member in good standing.

NY DISTRICT KIWANIS FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Must be nominated by a Kiwanis Club in good standing and be submitted online no later than April 15, 2027. More information can be found at New York District Kiwanis Foundation Scholarship

INTENT

The New York District Kiwanis Foundation Scholarship is designed to assist high school seniors who have demonstrated outstanding community service, leadership, academic achievement, and financial need. This one-time scholarship can be used for college-related expenses, including tuition, room and board, and books. The Scholarship Selection Committee will carefully review all nominations and the successful applicants will be announced in May 2027. All aspects of the program, including the criteria are subject to change by the Foundation Board of Directors.

The application for the New York District Kiwanis Foundation Scholarship can be found at: **New York District Kiwanis Foundation Scholarship**

CRITERIA

1. The applicant must be nominated by a Kiwanis Club in good standing.
2. A completed application (including all required documentation) must be submitted online on or before April 15, 2027.
3. To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must meet the following criteria:
    a. Demonstrated outstanding community service through school and community activities;
    b. Demonstrated leadership qualities through school and community activities;
    c. Academic success and achievement; and
    d. Documented financial need.

AUTOMATIC ENTRY

ACHIEVED INCREASED MEMBERSHIP AWARD

The Achieved Increased Membership Award is presented to clubs who have increased their club size significantly (15% or more) in comparison to the previous Key Club year. Clubs which do not qualify for this award will be automatically considered for the Membership Retention Award.

MEMBERSHIP RETENTION AWARD

The Membership Retention Award is presented to clubs that have achieved a membership increase of up to 15% from the previous service year. Clubs which have maintained the same membership level as the prior year will also be recognized.

EXCELLENCE IN FUNDRAISING AWARD

The Excellence in Fundraising Award is presented as two separate awards:

1. Single Largest Fundraising Effort – presented to the club that has raised the largest amount of money through a single service project.
2. Largest Cumulative Fundraising Total – presented to the club that has raised the greatest amount of money, in aggregate, during the service year.

For both, winning clubs will be determined by information reported on Fundraising Report Forms submitted by clubs throughout the administrative year.

DISTRICT PROJECT FUNDRAISING AWARD

The District Projects Fundraising Award(s) are awarded to the clubs which raised the greatest amount of funds for any of the 2026-2027 District Endorsed Projects. The 2026-2027 Endorsed Projects include: Save The Children, Pink Aid, Kamp Kiwanis, Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Center, and Kiwanis Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation. For each of these projects, one award will be given. Winners will be determined by information reported on Fundraising Report Forms submitted by clubs throughout the administrative year.

SERVICE HOURS PER MEMBER AWARD

The Service Hours per Member Award recognizes the club(s) that has reported the greatest number of service hours in proportion to the number of members in the club. Winners will be determined by information reported on the Monthly Report Forms submitted by clubs throughout the administrative year.

COMPLETED PAPERWORK AWARD

The Completed Paperwork Award is presented to clubs which submitted all necessary reports to the District prior to the annual Leadership Training Conference. To receive this award, a club must have submitted to the District Secretary, its Election Report Form and all Monthly Report forms (April 2026 through March 2027). Eligible clubs will be recognized during an appropriate session at the Leadership Training Conference.

PERFECT PAPERWORK AWARD

The Perfect Paperwork Award is presented to clubs which deserve to be recognized for diligently submitting all necessary reports to the District on-time. To receive this award, a club must have submitted to the District Secretary, its Election Report Form and all Monthly Report forms (April 2026 through March 2027) by the tenth of the successive month (e.g., April 2026 no later than May 10; May 2026 no later than June 10, etc.).

EARLY BIRD DUES AWARD

The Early Bird Dues Award recognizes those clubs which submitted dues earlier than the required deadline. Clubs must have submitted dues for a minimum of 11 members to both New York District and Key Club International before the early bird deadline of November 1, 2026. Eligible clubs will be recognized during an appropriate session at the Leadership Training Conference.

INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

SANDY NININGER MEDAL

Sandy Nininger Award Package

Former Key Club member Sandy Nininger died a hero at the battle of Bataan in January 1942, only one month after the United States entered World War II. He was awarded the first Congressional Medal of Honor of WWII "for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidness above and beyond the call of duty in action." In 1946, Key Club International formally named Lieutenant Alexander R. "Sandy" Nininger as the ideal Key Club member and the Sandy Nininger Medal was adopted. Since then, this gold medal, with Sandy's likeness superimposed upon it, has been presented by Key Clubs and Key Club Districts to outstanding students who have given of themselves "above and beyond the call of duty." To purchase a Sandy Nininger award package, please click the link above.

G. HAROLD MARTIN FELLOWSHIP MEDAL

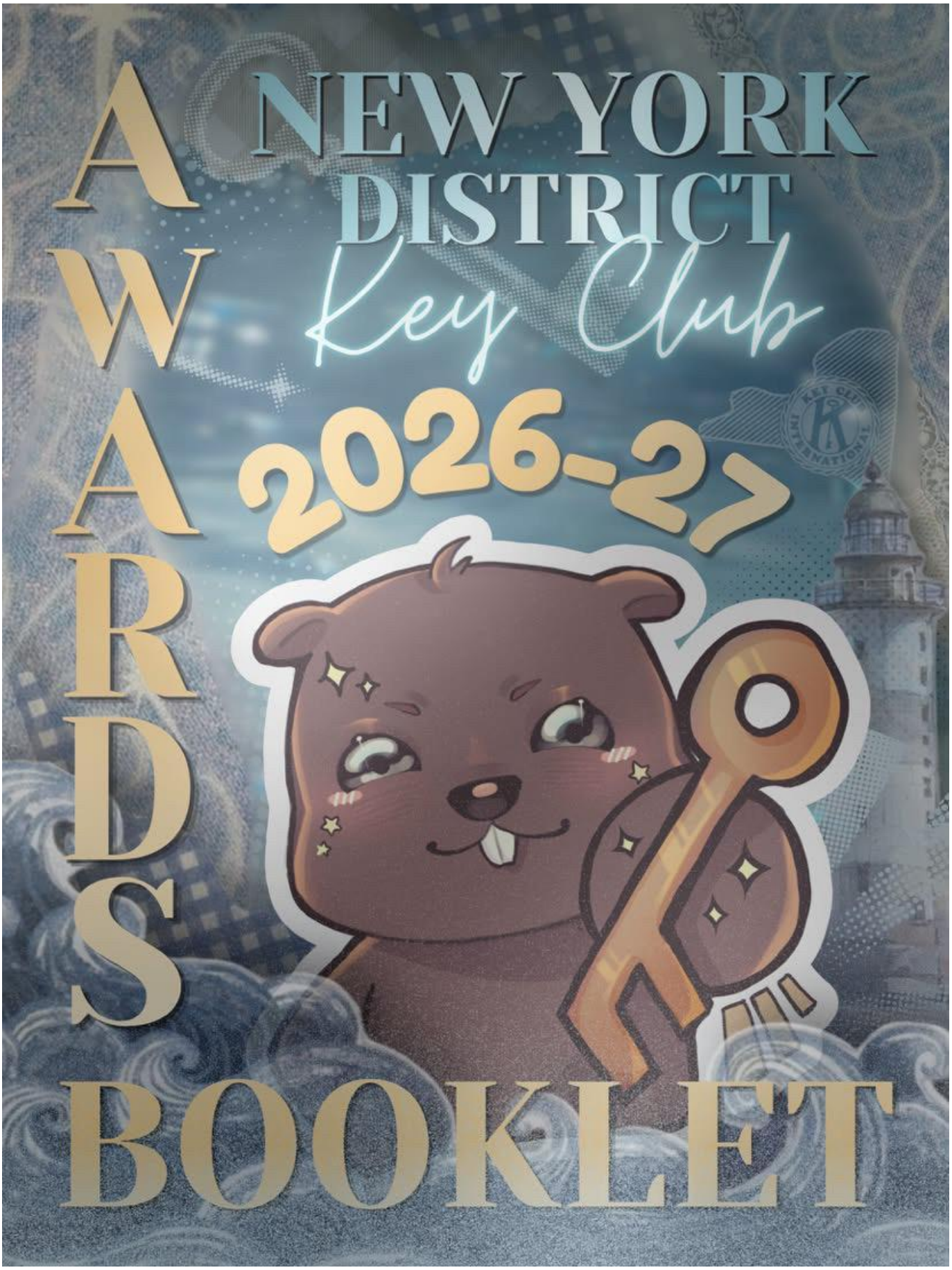
The G. Harold Martin Fellowship is attainable through a donation of $250 to the Youth Opportunities Fund. Additional donation levels of $250 are honored as diamond level fellowships. Fellowships can be obtained through a donation in honor of an individual or by an individual. To purchase a Fellowship, contact the Youth Opportunities Fund at Kiwanis International (1-800-KIWANIS) to receive a G. Harold Martin Fellowship application form.

A. G. TERRY SHAFFER HONORARY

This award is named after A.G. Terry Shaffer, the epitome of Kiwanis. Terry began his Kiwanis family adventure as a member of Key Club at Sunbury High School in Sunbury, Pennsylvania. Terry went on to serve as club president of three Kiwanis clubs: Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania; Southeast Area, Chicago; and Northwest Indianapolis. He served as secretary of those three clubs and the Kiwanis Club of Tri-Village, Rich Township, Illinois. He also served as lieutenant governor of Division 12, Pennsylvania District, for two years, and as district chairman of three committees of the Pennsylvania District. One of those committees was Key Club, and 44 new Key Clubs were built during that three-year period.

Terry also served as a member of the International Committee on Key Clubs during Kiwanis International's golden anniversary year of 1965. Terry was a member of the International Office staff for nearly 35 years, from 1969 to 2004. He held a wide variety of responsibilities on the Kiwanis International staff ranging from manager of club services, to Circle K International administrator, to International Secretary. In 1998, the title of International Secretary was changed to Executive Director. Terry served as Executive Director until his successor was named on January 8, 2004. He then served as the organization's Archivist/Historian.

Upon his retirement, the International Board of Trustees named him Executive Director Emeritus. Terry's life was cut short by cancer and he passed away in 2005. His widow, Nancy Shaffer, survives him. Recipients are presented an attractive award designed specifically for the Shaffer Honorary. The award signifies that a minimum contribution of $1,000 has been given. Shaffer Honorary proceeds are placed in the Key Club International Youth Opportunity Fund. Held within the Kiwanis International Foundation, this endowment fund's earnings will be used to provide grants in support of Key Club community-service projects and scholarships. A.G. Terry Shaffer Honoraria may be ordered by contacting Kiwanis International (1-800-KIWANIS) and requesting an A.G. Terry Shaffer Honorary order form.


NEW YORK
DISTRICT
Key Club
2026-27
AWARDS
BOOKLET