

PENNSYLVANIA STATE  
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

# Celebrating Excellence

## *2026 Lewis F. Adler Friend of Education and Human and Civil Rights awards*

*Honoring colleagues, friends, and community members  
who have made exceptional contributions to improve public  
education and the lives of others in their communities.*

### NOMINATION FORMS

---

Nominations must be received by the President's  
office on or before **Dec. 31, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.**

Nominations can be submitted online at  
***[www.psea.org/celebratingexcellence](http://www.psea.org/celebratingexcellence)***

If you are unable to access the online form,  
please contact Jen Statler at ***[jstatler@psea.org](mailto:jstatler@psea.org)***



## PSEA CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING QUALIFICATIONS

### Lewis F. Adler Friend of Education Award Nominee

---

- Must be a person who has made a contribution of significant and/or statewide impact on public education in Pennsylvania and may positively impact public education and/or education professionals in the future.
- Must be living.
- Applicants will remain in the pool for consideration for two years.
- The nominee may be a person in the political, civic or business community, PSEA leader, governance and staff, or a non-member.

The contribution must be of significant impact, and the nominator should provide specific reasons why the nominee should receive the award. The nominator's statement on the nominating form will have substantial bearing on the ultimate selection of the recipient.

What was done to justify the nomination should have potential and/or significant statewide impact on public education and/or education professionals and documentation should support the nominee's activities. Please include additional documentation.

### Human and Civil Rights Awards

---

Nominations will be accepted for efforts involved with marginalized communities in regard to race, color, creed, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability. Past award winners will not be considered. Categories are:

- Student Leader
- Educational Leader
- Community Leader
- Local Association

The recipient should have made outstanding contributions to human and civil rights and meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Expanding educational opportunities for students of color, students with disabilities, or other underrepresented student groups.
- Advancing the cause of human and civil rights within public schools and/or the community.
- Promoting health and safety within public schools and/or the community.

### General Criteria for all Awards

---

- Nominations will be evaluated on the basis of the criteria stated above and will not be considered unless criteria are met.
- Awardees shall be selected by the PSEA Human and Civil Rights/Adler Selection Committee and approved by the PSEA Board of Directors.
- PSEA reserves the right to present no award, select a nominee other than the person or organization nominated for an award, or move a nominee from one category to another for which he or she is qualified.
- All nominators must be PSEA members in a local association affiliated with PSEA including EA, ESP, PSEA-Retired, Student PSEA, or HealthCare-PSEA.
- If eligible, all nominees must be members in a local association affiliated with PSEA including EA, ESP, PSEA-Retired, Student PSEA, or HealthCare-PSEA.
- PSEA staff should not be nominated for an award if activities that meet the award criteria were performed as part of compensated PSEA staff responsibilities.
- Only one nominee may be submitted on each form.
- Nominators are encouraged to submit copies (not originals) of photographs and supporting materials and to retain copies of all nominating materials for possible renomination. PSEA is not responsible for returning supporting documentation.

Nominations can be submitted online at  
[\*www.psea.org/celebratingexcellence\*](http://www.psea.org/celebratingexcellence)