

The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) has announced a new **“National High School Heart of the Arts Award”!**

This award seeks to recognize those individuals who exemplify the “heart of the arts” ideals that represent the core mission of education-based activities. The award may be given in recognition of a specific act or for an activity of longer duration. For example, it could be awarded to an individual (or group) that has demonstrated exemplary “heart,” sportsmanship and/or citizenship; has exceeded normal expectations in assisting others within the school or community; or has overcome adversity or a challenging circumstance.

The recipient could be any student, adult or group associated with a high school’s performing arts program. The award covers a plethora of performing arts disciplines: Music, Speech, Debate, Theatre and any other performing arts activities that a school might sponsor.

Student nominees must be in good academic standing within his or her respective high school. Among the qualifying criteria are the student’s grade-point average, the activities in which he or she participates, and community involvement. All candidates should possess positive character traits such as a high level of integrity and ethics.

The Heart of the Arts Award will be conferred to eight section winners (our section includes the New England states) as well as one national winner. Each state is invited to submit one nominee for section and national consideration. We invite each of our member high schools to nominate one or more candidates who meet the award criteria. A committee of member school principals will review submissions and select the overall candidate to represent Connecticut. **Nominations must be for something that occurred between January 1, 2013 and January 31, 2014.**

Each state nominee will receive a certificate signed by NFHS Executive Director Bob Gardner in recognition of their achievements. The section winners and the national winner will be publicized in an NFHS press release, as well as in “High School Today” magazine. In addition, the national winner will be recognized in person at the NFHS Summer Meeting.

Please forward all nominations (and questions) to:

Dr. Karissa Niehoff  
CT Association of Schools  
30 Realty Drive  
Cheshire, CT 06410  
Electronic submissions are welcomed at [kniehoff@casciac.org](mailto:kniehoff@casciac.org)

**The deadline for submissions is December 15, 2013.**

# NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL HEART OF THE ARTS AWARD

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## Official Nomination Form



National Federation of State High School Associations  
PO Box 690 | Indianapolis, Indiana 46206  
Phone: 317-972-6900 | Fax: 317.822.5700

# INSTRUCTIONS

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The NFHS has developed its “National High School Heart of the Arts Award,” which will be conferred to eight section winners as well as one national winner. The recipient must be an individual from a high school that is a member of an NFHS-member athletic or activity association.

The recipient could be any student, adult or group associated with the school’s performing arts program. This award, which is similar to the Spirit of Sport Award, covers a plethora of performing arts disciplines: Music, Speech, Debate, Theatre and other performing arts activities that state associations may sponsor.

This award seeks to recognize those individuals who exemplify the ideals of the positive heart of the arts that represent the core mission of education-based athletics. The award may be given in recognition of a specific act or for an activity of longer duration.

For example, it could be awarded to an individual (or group) that:

- \*has demonstrated exemplary “heart,” sportsmanship and/or citizenship in participation as it should occur;
- \*has exceeded normal expectations in assisting others within the school or community; or
- \*has overcome adversity or a challenging circumstance.

In the instance of a student, that student must be in good academic standing within his or her respective high school. Among the qualifying criteria that will be used are the student’s grade-point average, the activities in which he or she is involved, and community involvement. Other candidates should possess similar positive character traits, such as a high level of integrity and ethics.

The nomination must be for something that occurred between January 1, 2013 and January 31, 2014. Nominated individuals do not necessary need to still be enrolled in high school at the time of the nomination.

The NFHS seeks to identify worthy award recipients by nominations submitted by the membership. Those nominations may be made by member high school associations, or by high schools or performing arts associations working through the member high school associations. In the instance of a nomination originating from a high school or performing arts association, it must be forwarded to the high school association within its particular state. A listing of all state associations is featured on the NFHS Web site at [www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org)

The member state association would then review all nominations, select the one nomination it deems worthy, sign the nomination form indicating its endorsement and approval and forward it to the NFHS. Each state association may submit just one nominee to the NFHS.

This nomination form is the primary criterion in the nomination process. Support materials are welcome, but not required. Please also submit a color photograph of the nominee(s).

The section winners and the national winner will be publicized in an NFHS press release, as well as in “High School Today.”

In addition, the national winner will be recognized in person at the NFHS Summer Meeting. Information regarding the national recipient will be included in print materials at the Summer Meeting, as well as in a video that will be shown there.

Information regarding the section winners will be included in print materials at the Summer Meeting, as well as in a video that will be shown there.

Every nominee, regardless if they are selected or not selected as a section or national award recipient, will receive a certificate signed by the NFHS Executive Director.

# NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL HEART OF THE ARTS AWARD NOMINEE

(The deadline for returning the completed nomination to CAS is December 15, 2013)

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Name of Nominee: [Tab here] \_\_\_\_\_  
(first, middle, last)

## ***Individual Submitting Nomination:***

Name: [Tab here] \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: [Tab here] \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: [Tab here] \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: [Tab here] \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: [Tab here] \_\_\_\_\_

Date: [Tab here] \_\_\_\_\_

## ***State Association Endorsement*** (to be completed by CAS-CIAC staff)

Name: [Tab here] \_\_\_\_\_

Title: [Tab here] \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: [Tab here] \_\_\_\_\_

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# NOMINEE INFORMATION SHEET

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Student    Coach    Administrator    Official    Trainer    Performing Arts  
Administrator    Athletic Administrator    Other (Specify \_\_\_\_\_)

Name of Nominee: [Tab here] \_\_\_\_\_  
*(first, middle, last)*

Current Address: [Tab here] \_\_\_\_\_  
*(street address)*

[Tab here] \_\_\_\_\_  
*(city, state, zip)*

Phone: [Tab here] \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: [Tab here] \_\_\_\_\_

School (if any): [Tab here] \_\_\_\_\_

City: [Tab here] \_\_\_\_\_ State: [Tab here] \_\_\_\_\_

# NOMINATION FORM

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1. Please describe nominee's current involvement in high school. If applicable, please list any accomplishments or honors attained.

[Tab here]

2. Please list nominee's actions or accomplishments that deem him or her worthy of the "National High School Heart of the Arts Award."

[Tab here]