

Betsy Alden Outstanding Service-Learning Awards

The Betsy Alden Outstanding Service-Learning Awards recognize **one graduating senior, one faculty member, and one community partner** for their commitment to the ideals of service-learning. Each Alden award winner will receive \$250 to further develop his/her community-building and leadership skills.

Nomination Instructions

Any member of the Duke community or a community partner organization may nominate an eligible student, faculty member, or community partner (individual or organization) for a Betsy Alden Outstanding Service-Learning Award.

- **Faculty and community partner nominations:** Submit a statement of approximately 500 words indicating why the nominee deserves the award in light of the criteria listed below.
- **Student nominations:** Submit a statement of approximately 500 words indicating why the nominee deserves the award in light of the criteria listed below. **ALSO**, the student nominee must provide a short description or reflection on their service-learning experiences at Duke. Please provide the student with the instructions below. We suggest doing so by the first week in March to allow time for them to prepare a statement before the nomination deadline, generally the week after Spring Break. See <http://servicelearning.duke.edu/about/alden> for deadline.

Joint nominations are welcomed. Nominations should be submitted to Kimmie Garner, Assistant Director, [Duke Service-Learning](#), by e-mail (kimberly.garner@duke.edu) mail (Box 90739), or in person (West Duke 213), and must be received by **the deadline**.

Eligibility

Graduating seniors, faculty members, and community partners who have participated in at least one [service-learning course](#) at Duke are eligible for an Alden Award.

Selection Criteria

Graduating Seniors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership, initiative, or ongoing commitment to academic service-learning • Quality of reflection about the service-learning experience
Faculty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meaningful integration of the service experience with course content (structure of the service experience, selection of community partners, use of critical reflection) • Consideration of and commitment to the needs of community partner(s) • Long-term commitment to service-learning and/or involvement in the service-learning community at Duke
Community Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to the academic and personal development of Duke students • Collaboration with Duke students and faculty members • Length or depth of involvement with Duke service-learning faculty and students

Description of Awards

Referred to as one of the “founding mothers” of the service-learning movement at Duke, Betsy Alden began combining learning and service in the 1980s. Since then, she has done it all: created and taught service-learning courses; forged community partnerships; recruited, inspired, and mentored faculty and students; developed and administered campus service-learning programs; and championed service-learning through publications, lectures, workshops, and service on national boards. In the ten years Betsy led the service-learning movement at Duke, service-learning evolved from an obscure pedagogy used by a handful of faculty to a vibrant cross-disciplinary practice.

For Betsy Alden, service-learning is ultimately about building more humane relationships and is linked to a deeper spiritual sense of vocation. The magic of her work with students, faculty, and community partners lies in her ability to connect people both to one another and to the deeper ideals of reciprocity, partnership, and a sustained commitment to the community.

Dear [student],

I would like to nominate you for a Betsy Alden Outstanding Service-Learning Award at Duke!

The [Betsy Alden Outstanding Service-Learning Awards](#) recognize **one graduating senior**, one faculty member, and one community partner for their outstanding commitment to the ideals of service-learning. Students, faculty members, and community partners who have participated in at least one Duke [service-learning course](#) are eligible for an Alden Award. Each Alden award recipient receives \$250 to further develop his/her community-building and leadership skills.

To accept this nomination, please provide a description of, or reflection on, your participation in service-learning at Duke (service-learning courses and other experiences connecting civic engagement to your academic studies) to me no later than _____. Suggested length is one page. This will be included as part of the nomination package I submit for you.

The selection criteria for graduating seniors are as follows:

- Leadership, initiative, or ongoing commitment to academic service-learning
- Quality of reflection about the service-learning experience

All student nominees who submit materials will be recognized at the Duke University Student Leadership and Service Awards program in **April**. You will receive an invitation for this event later in the spring.

[Nominator]