



The 2019 – 2020 Joe Kordick Youth Character Awards Middle School Nomination Instructions

Nominations Due ~ Friday, November 13th, 2020, 4:30 PM

About the Awards

The Joe Kordick Youth Character Award honors worthy young people who embody the “Six Pillars of Character” — trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

Rather than spotlighting isolated acts of heroism, generosity or academic grades, the Joe Kordick Youth Character Award was conceived to recognize those students whose lives and achievements demonstrate an **enduring commitment** to any or all the following qualities associated with good character:

- Uncompromising integrity and courage demonstrated by a willingness to do the right thing despite social pressures or personal risk
- Generosity of spirit and willingness for self-sacrifice in devotion to helping others
- Community service in working for the common good
- Perseverance and inner strength enabling the young person to overcome physical, financial, or other difficulties

Middle School Award Information

- **Middle School Award** – Each middle school award recipient will receive a plaque and be recognized at their respective school’s moving up ceremony.

Middle School Eligibility Requirements

1. Middle school award nominees must be eighth grade students attending a Martin County District Middle School at the time the awards are announced.
2. The award nominee’s life and achievements must convey an enduring commitment to the Six Pillars of Character and the above-mentioned qualities associated with good character.

Nomination Instructions

1. Nomination forms are available by contacting Tara Zweben at 283-4800, tzweben@unitedwaymartin.org, or can be downloaded at unitedwaymartin.org/CharacterCounts under Awards/Recognition.
2. Nominations will be accepted from all school and school district staff and the community-at-large from **October 18th, 2020 – November 13th, 2020**.
 - a. **School Nominations:** Nominations from staff at the nominee's current school must go through the school's CHARACTER COUNTS! representative. The CHARACTER COUNTS! school rep is responsible for submitting the ten school nominations to United Way of Martin County CHARACTER COUNTS! (maximum of 10 from each school).
 - b. **Community Nominations:** Nominations from persons outside the nominee's current school are considered community nominations and must be submitted directly to United Way of Martin County CHARACTER COUNTS! (unlimited).
3. Nomination submissions must be typed.
4. ***Because this nomination will be used in the selection and scoring process, it is most important that your answers are detailed and speak to the individual student's character.*** Please keep in mind that this is a recognition award for good character, not an academic scholarship.
5. **The deadline for nominations is 4:30 pm, Friday, November 13th, 2020.** Nominations must be emailed as attachments to Tara Zweben, United Way of Martin County / CHARACTER COUNTS!, tzweben@unitedwaymartin.org. Contact Tara Zweben at 283-4800 or tzweben@unitedwaymartin.org to verify that your nomination(s) has/have been received. Late submissions will not be considered.

Selection Process

1. The application with instructions will be mailed directly to your nominees by November 20th, 2020, and are due by 4:30 pm on **Friday, December 18th, 2020**. Please follow-up with your nominees as soon as possible to ensure they received their application.
2. The CHARACTER COUNTS! Advisory Committee urges its CHARACTER COUNTS! middle school representatives to assist their nominated students in finding an appropriate person to write their second letter of recommendation. A letter of recommendation template will be provided to the nominees and the schools.
3. A United way of Martin County CHARACTER COUNTS! selection committee will review and score the applications.
4. Middle School Recipients: The highest scoring applicants will be selected and recognized at their middle school's moving up ceremony.