

# The Idaho Character Council's Annual Citizen of Ethics Scholarship Program

Co-Sponsored by the University of Idaho Center for Ethics, the  
Coeur d'Alene Chamber of Commerce, and the Coeur d'Alene Press

## **SCHOLARSHIP AWARD:**

The Idaho Character Council Citizen of Ethics Scholarship Program recognizes members of our Idaho community who personify high ethics demonstrated through leadership, community service, and overall personal integrity. Four (4) citizens will be selected by an independent panel of judges to receive scholarships of \$1,000 each. One scholarship winner will be chosen from each of the following four groups: 1) Adults not in college; 2) College Students; 3) High School Students; 4) Junior High School/ Elementary School students or younger.

Scholarship winners will choose from two alternatives: A \$1,000 Idaho Section 529 College Education Investment Account to be used for college expenses, or a laptop computer of equivalent value chosen by the Idaho Character Council. **Entries must be postmarked by January 1, 2008.** Awards will be announced to recipients and the public on March 2, 2008 in the Coeur d'Alene Press' Sunday paper, with one or more of the winning essays published in that paper.

## **AWARD GUIDELINES:**

The Selection Committee, comprised of business leaders and one or more members of the academic community, will review entries for the Citizen of Ethics Award. These judges will select the scholarship recipients based on their leadership, contributions to their communities, personal integrity, and written essay. Decisions of the judges are final.

The applicant must be a legal resident of Idaho and a United States citizen. The Scholarship is open to all ages, and to encourage maximum participation, previous Scholarship winners must wait five (5) years to reapply. Previously submitted essays cannot be resubmitted in future years. All entries must include 3 items (all available online at [www.IdahoCharacterCouncil.com](http://www.IdahoCharacterCouncil.com)):

- 1) The completed Citizen of Ethics Scholarship Entry Form;
- 2) A one-page typed Essay following the format listed;
- 3) A one-page typed Letter of Recommendation (e.g. teacher, church official, employer, parent, friend, etc.), no longer than 300 words.

Please retain a copy of your completed entry. All submitted entries become the property of the Idaho Character Council and cannot be returned.

## **JUDGING CRITERIA:**

The criteria used by judges for the award includes: **Leadership 20%, Community Service 20%, Essay 60%**. Essay and entry forms must be mailed simultaneously and postmarked by January 1, 2008. The essay must be typed and should not exceed one 8.5" x 11" page. It should be standard 12-point Times New Roman font, single-spaced and black ink should be used.

## **PROCEDURE:**

**Mail completed application, entry form, and letter of recommendation to:**



# The Idaho Character Council's Citizen of Ethics Entry Form

**Entries must be postmarked by January 1, 2008. Awards will be announced to recipients and the public on March 2, 2008 in the Coeur d'Alene Press' Sunday paper, with one or more of the winning essays published in that paper.**

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a student, which school do you attend: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Leadership Information:**

Describe any leadership related activities, such as in your home, work, and school related activities. What leadership opportunities inspire you the most? \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Community Service:**

Describe your activities within your community. Where and how do you strive to make your community better? Mention any recognition and awards received, and attach documentation:

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## **RELEASE OF INFORMATION:**

I hereby release my entry and essay for publication at the sole discretion of the Idaho Character Council. I also certify that all the information is accurate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Legal Guardian if under 18.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Legal Guardian

# The Idaho Character Council's Citizen of Ethics Essay Information

**Entries must be postmarked by January 1, 2008. Awards will be announced to recipients and the public on March 1, 2008 in the Coeur d'Alene Press' Sunday paper, with one or more of the winning essays published in that paper.**

## **ESSAY TOPIC:**

Please write an essay describing the decision making process that you have utilized in making ethical decisions in your life. Please give a specific example of a difficult ethical decision you have recently made utilizing this process. Please include one or more of the foundational character qualities listed below. The essay must be typed and should not exceed one 8.5" x 11" page. It should be standard 12-point Times New Roman font, single-spaced and black ink should be used.

## **FOUNDATIONAL CHARACTER QUALITIES:**

- 1) **Boldness:** Confidence that what I have to say or do is true, right and just.
- 2) **Faith:** Confidence that actions rooted in good character will yield the best outcome, even when I cannot see how.
- 3) **Justice:** Taking personal responsibility to uphold what is pure, right, and true.
- 4) **Self-Control:** Rejecting wrong desires and doing what is right.
- 5) **Truthfulness:** Earning future trust by accurately reporting past facts.
- 6) **Virtue:** The moral excellence evident in my life as I consistently do what is right.
- 7) **Wisdom:** Seeing and responding to life situations from a perspective that transcends my current circumstances.

## **DEFINITION OF ETHICS:**

A decision making process that enables us to determine the "right" thing to do; i.e. with a range of acceptable options, the best thing to do in a given situation.