5th Annual Awards Gala

**NOMINATION PACKAGE 2015**

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**T O P**

**TALENTS**

INVEST IN OUR YOUTH

Due Date:

6pm on November 6th, 2015

Drop-off / Mail-in location:

Canadian Tamil Academy

8 Milner Avenue.

Scarborough, ON M1S 3P8

Event Date:

December 2015

CANADIAN TAMIL YOUTH ALLIANCE

The wealth which never declines

Is not riches but learning.

- Verse 400,Thriukural



**ABOUT CTYA**

The Canadian Tamil Youth Alliance (CTYA) is a feder- ally registered non-profit organization which strives to empower Tamil youth to become outstanding leaders and contributing citizens of our community. CTYA believes that the Tamil community can exceed ex- pectations and achieve great things if the Tamil youth stand together for a unified goal and vision. CTYA

aims to achieve this through initiating programs in five different sectors where the youth are well involved in.Those sectors are Arts & Culture, Athletics, Educa- tion & Career Development, Human Rights Advocacy and Tamil Nation Development. Our goal is to facili- tate the participation of young Canadian Tamils in

the Canadian society to build a stronger, greener and fairer country and to also help them gain the skills

and experience required to walk forward in achieving their goals.We hope to give individuals the recogni- tion they deserve for their outstanding achievements and performances.

**Our Vision**

To empower Canadian Tamil Youth to become out-

standing leaders and citizens in our society

**Our Mission**

- To provide a progressive and democratic forum for Canadian youth of Tamil heritage and youth affiliated with the Tamil language, culture and/or people

- To provide a united front to strengthen the social, economic and spiritual growth of Tamil youth, both in Canada and abroad

- To facilitate the participation of Tamil youth in the broader Canadian society with the aim of building a stronger, greener and fairer country

**OUR COUNCILS**

**Arts and Culture**

The Arts and Culture Council is responsible for creat- ing an environment for youth that is inspiring and con- ducive of self expression through the arts and culture. Among its key objectives are the improvement, re- orientation and expansion of programs that promote the arts and Tamil culture to Canadian Tamil youth and the broader Canadian Community.

**Athletics**

The Athletics Council is tasked with providing Canadi- an Tamil youth with an avenue to develop their leader- ship skills through athletics and recreational programs. The aim of this council is to educate through athletics and promote outstanding sportsmanship and build team spirit.

**Education and Career Development**

The Education and Career Development Council provides Canadian Tamil youth with the necessary resources that integrates academic, applied learning and career awareness to support youth in making a successful transition from school to work, or post- secondary education.Through a coordinated effort, youth will have optimal access to career development resources, and will be better prepared to take advan- tage of relevant learning and workplace opportunities.

**Human Rights Advocacy**

The Human Rights Advocacy Council aims to build the capacity of Canadian Tamil youth by equipping them with the necessary knowledge and skills to ad- vocate for the protection of human rights in Canada and abroad.This council will strive to not only uphold international law and the Geneva conventions, but

also educate our youth and the broader Canadian

society about the ongoing plight of Tamil people.

**Tamil Nation Development**

The Tamil Nation Development Council aims to

make significant efforts to rebuild and develop the

war-stricken nation. This council hopes to implement projects, and provide support to re-establish edu- cational facilities, hospitals, homes and other infra- structures in collaboration with community partners, NGOs and U.N agencies.

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If a single individual alone can make a difference, if a single group alone can achieve the unexpected, envi- sion what an alliance of organizations can achieve. Youth, the generation to decide the fate of the future, have the power to accomplish great things. Imagine what can be accomplished when the Tamil youth in Canada come together, stand united, and voice for a unified goal and vision.The possibilities are endless.

**5th Annual Awards**

CTYA will be celebrating the achievements of the Canadian Tamil youth at our awards gala, “Top Tal- ents”.The awards ceremony will showcase and re- ward youth who have demonstrated excellence in their respective fields. Furthermore, this celebration of achievement will encourage other Canadian Tamil youth all over Canada to strive for greater success

while providing them with an avenue to be recognized for all their hard work and dedication.

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

**Nominees must:**

- Be a Canadian youth of Tamil heritage, culture, and

language backgrounds.

- Be between the ages of 17 to 30 (before midnight

on Nov 5th, 2015).

- Complete the full application.

- Meet the criteria of the specific awards.

- Become an individual member of the Canadian Tamil

Youth Alliance if not a member already

(Membership forms are attached. A $25 fee will apply for the membership. For inquiry, please visit [www.tamilyouth.ca](http://www.tamilyouth.ca) or e-mail us at [info@ctya.org](mailto:info@ctya.org)

**DEADLINES FOR NOMINATION**

6pm on November 6th, 2015

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- Each nominator may nominate a maximum of three

nominees but must fill out separate forms.

- Awards may be withheld if qualified applications are not received.

- The selection panel is interested in the nominee’s overall academic success, leadership qualities, determi- nation, and commitment to success.

- All documents must be submitted together at one

time, in one application.

- Late submissions will not be reviewed.

- Non-compliance to rules will result in an automatic disqualification of the application.

- Active Board of Directors and their immediate fam- ily members (brothers, sisters, half siblings, step- sib-

lings and spouses) will not be permitted to apply until the end of their term.

- All decisions regarding Top Talents will be finalized by the Top Talents Committee.

- Previous award winners must wait two years before applying to an award won; past applicants may how- ever apply for awards within other categories.

**REWARDS**

All award winners will receive a $500 rewards along with recognition on CTYA website, CTYA blog, com- munity media, and social media outlets.

**AWARDS LISTING**

Awards will be presented to Canadian Tamil youth recognizing their past and current contributions in the following fields:

**Arts**

Classical Dance Classical Music Urban Dance Urban Music Martial Arts Visual Arts **Academics**

Business Management Political Science/Law Medicine/Science/Nursing Engineering

Journalism Tamil Language **Athletics** Soccer

Cricket

Basketball

Track and Field **Achievement** Outstanding Leadership Youth Entrepreneur Youth Activist

Youth Volunteer

**Open Category:**

Top Talent:Why I am a Top Talent

**AWARDS CRITERIA**

**Arts Awards**

Awarded to young artists who strive in building our community through each of the following areas: Clas- sical Dance, Classical Music, Urban Dance, Urban Music, Martial Arts & Visual Arts.

- Must demonstrate outstanding ability and achieve- ment in one of the arts, as demonstrated through your work in a studio, in public performance or a creative portfolio.

- Display creativity, hard work and determination in the pursuit of your artistic talents.

- All Visual Arts applicants must submit a portfolio with three pieces of work including descriptions while all other applicants must submit a 5 to 8 min- ute video of their performance (must be performed after January 01, 2013).Video must be given in a DVD format.

- All those who completed private training in either of these fields must submit names of institutions, dates of graduation, and certificate/diploma received. Those who have completed either Vocal or Dance Arangetram must provide dates of completion.

**Academic Awards**

Academics Awards will be presented to one individual in each of the five following fields of study: Business Management, Political Science/Law, Medicine/Science/ Nursing, Engineering, Journalism, & Tamil Language.

- The individual must demonstrate perseverance,

determination and passion for learning.

- Must be currently enrolled in a post-secondary

institution or a recent graduate (within 1 year).

- Achieved personal success in the academic envi- ronment while utilizing the field of study for per- sonal growth.

- Ability to participate in extracurricular activities at university/college while maintaining strong academic results.

- All applicants will be required to submit an official copy of their Fall 2014 and Winter 2015 transcript.

**Athletic Awards**

These awards will be presented to individuals who have shown significant achievement in a competi-

tive organized sporting environment. Awards will be presented to one individual in each of the following four categories: Cricket, Soccer, Basketball, & Track and Field.

- Achieved tremendous success in your respective

sporting field in the past several years.

- Must demonstrate team work, leadership qualities and excellent sportsmanship.

- Encourage activities that promote a healthy life-

style.

- Each applicant must submit a summary of achieve- ments within the past five years, including the leagues and clubs played for and special sporting events that you have participated in.

**Achievement Awards**

**Outstanding Leadership**

- Individual has shown both academic and non-aca-

demic success.

- All applicants will be required to submit an official copy of their Fall 2014 and Winter 2015 transcript.

- The individual serves as an inspiration and motiva- tion for others through the demonstration of posi- tive attitude and work ethics.

- He/ She must have the ability to support others.

- The individual is seen as a leader by the Canadian

Tamil youth community.

- In a short summary, explain how your leadership characteristics have made a positive impact on Ca- nadian Tamil youth.

**Youth Entrepreneur**

- The applicant should display his/her will, determi- nation and originality through the implementation of a personal business or the development of an innovative product.

- A determined leader who thrives to succeed as an entrepreneur.

- Please provide a summary about your innova- tion or your small business. Also, please explain how your innovation or small business will make

a positive contribution to the Tamil community in

strengthening its economic establishment.

- Business registration numbers must also be pro-

vided.

**Youth Activist**

- The individual has a strong stance on a just cause

that needs an immediate solution.

- Consistently bringing awareness to the cause through different positive and proactive approaches.

- Explain how you have used a positive, proactive and solution-based approach to address an issue/ cause while making a positive contribution to the community. Also, explain how you hope to continue your activism in the coming years.

**Youth Volunteer**

- Individual will be recognized for his/her meaningful volunteerism with local charities, organizations or community based groups.

- The individual strives to improve the quality life of

others with a commitment to make a difference.

- In an additional summary, explain what volun- teerism means to you, including how you have made a positive impact in others life while improving developing yourself as an individual.

**Open Category: Why I am a Top Talent** This award is geared to recognize an individual who has shown tremendous talent and ability overall within a category not included above.The recipient

of this award must demonstrate why they deserve to be a “Top Talent” by highlighting their achievements, community service involvement, and extracurricular involvement.Those who are currently working in a non-traditional field or category not included above must demonstrate their leadership in choosing that field, and how they have demonstrated talent and excellence. In addition, they must argue why their contribution in this field is necessary and beneficial to the field itself and also how it benefits the Tamil com- munity.

Possible Fields (but not limited to): Architecture, Communication, Culinary Arts, Environmental Studies, Information Technology, Law, Media, Non-Profit, Polic- ing,Trades, or Urban Planning.

| **Top Talents 2015 Application Form** | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Section 1: Nominator Information (to be completed by the nominator)** | | | | | |
| Name: | | | | | |
| Address: | | | | | Postal Code: |
| E-mail: | Phone Number: | | | | |
| Relation to the nominee: | | | | | |
| I (print name), \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, hereby nominate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the following award (please indicate below). | | | | | |
| Signature: | | | | Date: | |
| **Awards** | | | | | |
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| **Briefly describe why your nominee should receive the above suggested award within this section:** | | | | | |
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| **SECTION 2: To be completed by the nominee** | | | | | |
| Name: | | | | | |
| Address: | | | | | Postal Code: |
| E-mail: | | | Phone Number: | | |
| I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, accept this nomination. | | | | | |
| **Declaration of applicant** | | | | | |
| 1. I agree that, to my knowledge, all information provided is accurate and up to date. 2. I understand that application information may be verified by contacting the appropriate individuals. 3. I agree that information I provide may be used for publicity before and after the Awards Gala in local media and on CTYA’s promotional materials. | | | | | |
| Signature: | | Date: | | | |
| **Personal Statement (MANDATORY):**  All nominees must write a minimum one page to a maximum of a two pages statement with the title “I am the best candidate for this award” on a separate sheet and attach that completed paper with this application form. In the essay, you may include any or all of the following:   * Awards and achievement * Community service involvement * Extracurricular involvement   *\*Essay must be in proper essay format, double-spaced, Times New Roman, with 12 point font.* | | | | | |
| **Reference Letters (Optional)** | | | | | |
| Nominees may submit a minimum of one (1) and maximum of three (3) letters of reference (in addition to the section provided by the nominator) supporting their application for the chosen award. The letters of reference should be current, and should not exceed the above-mentioned limit. References should not include relatives or friends. References can be from teachers, coaches, professors, employers, guidance counsellors, and volunteer or community organizations. Please ensure that letters are on appropriate letterhead. | | | | | |
| **Things to keep in mind:** | | | | | |
| Please remember that:   * All Visual Arts applicants must submit a portfolio with three pieces of work including descriptions while other arts awards must submit a 5-8 minute video of their performance. * All academic award applicants will be required to submit their Fall 2014/Winter 2015 transcript. * All athletic award applicants must submit a summary of athletic achievement within the past 5 years including the leagues and clubs played for and special sporting events that you have participated in. * All achievement award applicants will be required to submit their summary depending on the specific award. * A CTYA Individual Membership Form must also be submitted along with a $25.00 membership fee | | | | | |
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