

# Deafblind International (DbI) Awards

## Announcement

The months are moving along and it will soon be time for the 2017 European DbI Conference September 5-8, 2017. The Conference brings together colleagues from all over Europe and around the world for learning, sharing and celebrating. At DbI regional and world conferences we have the privilege of honoring people who have made exceptional contributions to individuals who are deafblind and to DbI. We are soliciting nominations for the Young Professional Leadership Award, the Distinguished Service Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award to be given out in Aalborg, Denmark. I hope you will take time to review the criteria for the awards and to submit names for consideration. Please submit your nominations using the process outlined.

All nominations must be received by **May 12, 2017**

Please email the nomination packet to Bernadette Kappen at [bkappen@nyise.org](mailto:bkappen@nyise.org) for review by the Awards Committee. Faxes will not be accepted.

## **DbI International Young Professional Leadership Award Eligibility Requirements**

DbI has created the Young Professional Leadership Award to honor individuals younger than 40 years of age who are providing high quality program opportunities.

Nomination Criteria:

- Recognition as an up-and-coming leader in the field of deafblindness
- Demonstrated excellence, creativity and initiative in their work
- Provides valuable service to improve the quality of life for individuals who are deafblind
- Potential of future impact of nominee's work in the field of deafblindness

The nominator should provide a descriptive summary of the nominee's achievements and contributions in 500 words or less. The summary should provide specific examples which attest to each of the four criteria. The nomination submission must also include a minimum of two letters of support from colleagues, parents or consumers. If the nominee is a teacher, one letter should be from a parent and if the nominee is an administrator one letter of support should be from someone outside the person's agency, i.e. ministry of education or another outside organization.

## **DbI Distinguished Service Award Nominee Eligibility Requirements**

This award recognizes a DbI member who has significantly contributed to the deafblind field or DbI, internationally.

Examples of work in the deafblind field or within DbI.

- Examples of contributions when thinking about a possible nominee for the Distinguished Services Award: 1) overall professional experiences; 2) innovative practices; 3) unique or extraordinary contributions to DbI; 4) professional publications, research and/or staff training activities; 5) leadership on the international level which has promoted or improved services to deafblind individuals and their families.

## **DbI Lifetime Achievement Award Eligibility Requirements**

The Lifetime Achievement Award will be made to an individual who has made a distinguished contribution to services for deafblind people on a national and international level.

- This award is recommended to be given towards the end of one's working career.
- Distinguished contributions could be in the area of: publications, research, development of new techniques or procedures, practical application of teaching techniques, training staff and parents, advocacy; and dynamic leadership.

## **Instructions for Nomination for the DbI Distinguished Service Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award**

1. Complete the nomination form.
2. Attach a 500 to 1000-word essay, which describes the nominee's contribution to deafblind individuals.
3. Attach at least three (3) letters, which support the nomination. These letters can be from colleagues, parents, deafblind individuals, employers or others who can comment on the nominee. The letters should present information that conveys an accurate picture of the nominee's achievements and contribution to the field of deafblindness.

**DbI Young Professional Leadership Award, Distinguished Service and  
Lifetime Achievement Awards  
Nomination Form**

Please type the following information so that it can be easily read or scanned. Forms or letters not presented in this manner will be returned.

I would like to nominate: (Please complete a separate nomination form for each award/nominee)

**Name of nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this individual a current or past member of DbI? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

For the following award: (Please check one)

- Distinguished Service Award
- Lifetime Achievement Award
- Young Professional Leadership Award

**Name of nominator:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_