



Youth Philanthropy Contest

For the love of the community

proudly sponsored by:



PO Box 714 • Norfolk, NE 68702-0714

philanthropycouncilne.org/youth-contest • youthcontest@philanthropycouncilne.org

2021 Contest Guidelines

Youth Philanthropy Contest

What is this?

The Youth Philanthropy Contest is an exciting opportunity for youth and young adults to use their creativity, compassion, and love of their community to make a difference. We want people from kindergarten through age 25 to ask themselves this question:

How can I make a difference in my community?

Applicants will submit their best ideas to change the world, right here in their own backyards. **Contest winners will receive up to \$1,000 to implement their projects and up to 10 contest winners will be chosen.**

What do you mean “make a difference?”

We are looking for projects that help our community grow and change for the better and are “philanthropic” in nature. **Philanthropy** is a big word but it can be easily understood as “giving of your time, talents, and treasure for the benefit of all.” Here are some questions to help you think about ways to make things better in your community:

What do I care about?

How can my caring help others?

What in my community needs fixing?

What would make my community a better place?

Your idea could be something you’ve been thinking about for a while or a totally random spark of inspiration – as long as it benefits others. You could save something, create something, or change something. Tell us about your best idea for making a difference!

What kinds of ideas qualify?

We’re looking for ideas that:

- Have a positive impact on the community
- Can be completed by October 1st of 2021
- Directly benefit Northeast Nebraska
- Are charitable in nature (which means it must focus on serving the public interest or common good)
- Involve youth in the project work
- Goals are realistic and attainable due to the impact of COVID-19

Do I have to do this by myself?

Not unless you want to! You can do a project on your own, with friends, or part of a school class, club or group.

How do I complete an application?

Please visit our website to complete an online application: <http://philanthropycouncilne.org/>

There will not be an in-person contest this year, everything will be virtual. You will be required to submit an online application and attach an additional piece that will help “sell” your idea to the selection committee and give them a better sense of what you are trying to accomplish. ***The more you can demonstrate the details of your project and its impact in the community, the better your chances are for being selected.***

Required Application Materials:

- Contest Application (all sections must be completed)
- Additional Information Attachment (Google slide, photos, video, Power Point, sketches, impact statements, statistics, or anything else that helps showcase your project)

What is the deadline for this contest?

All applications are **due on February 5th**, 2021 at 5:00 pm to be considered. **ALL** the parts of your application must be received by the deadline. ***No late entries will be accepted.***

When do you announce the winners?

The selection Committee will be reviewing all applications. Winners will then be announced on Friday February 19th via the Philanthropy Council of Northeast Nebraska’s Facebook page. There will NOT be an in-person showcase. We will contact you if your project has been selected to receive funding.

Important Dates to Remember

February 5th, 2021 – Online applications due

February 19th, 2021 – Project winners announced via Facebook

October 1st, 2021 – Projects must be completed

OTHER FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is there a way I can get help with my application?

You can always get help by emailing us at youthcontest@philanthropycouncilne.org with any questions you might have about the contest or application process. So if you need help figuring out an idea, putting together a budget, or completing your application we are here for you!

Why do I need to submit an attachment?

Visual aids such as videos, pictures, or Power Points help our selection committee learn more about your project and the impact that it can have on the community. Use the visuals to sell your idea and tell us why it should be selected for funding. Individual file size limit is 10MB.

Do I have to make sure my project is approved by the community organization or group that it benefits?

YES! All projects that directly impact a club, group, or organization **MUST have approval** from those organizations affected by the project for your application to be considered for the contest. For example, if

your project impacts a nursing home then you must speak to the nursing home first. Not having permission to move forward with your project, should it be selected as a contest winner, will disqualify your application.

Who decides which projects receive funding?

The Youth Philanthropy Contest has a Selection Committee that will be reviewing all applications.

What happens if my idea is funded?

If you are a contest winner, we will reach out to you via email to notify you. Winners will be announced on Friday February 19th via the Philanthropy Council of Northeast Nebraska's Facebook page.

You will then be connected with a mentor who will help you to complete your project by offering support, assistance and advice as you need it. They will check in with you on a regular basis and make sure you're following your timeline. The mentor will receive all funding and will assist you in working with the Philanthropy Council on the financial pieces of your project. Please feel free to ask questions if it is unclear.

Do I have to report back to the Philanthropy Council after my project is over?

You will provide quarterly updates to the Philanthropy Council on your project's progress. When your project is completed, we will ask you to answer a few questions about your project and how it went. We will also ask you to submit some pictures. So, make sure to take pictures as you work on your project.

We will wrap up the year with a final *Youth Project Celebration* in October (tentative). All funded projects will be expected to report on their success and the impact their project had. This will be the final step of your project. Details on the Celebration event will be announced at a later date.

What is the timeline for completing my project?

You have until October 1st to complete your project from the date you receive your funding.

Contact Information for the Youth Philanthropy Contest:

Youth Philanthropy Contest
PO Box 714
Norfolk, NE 68702-0714
youthcontest@philanthropycouncilne.org
Callan Collins, Contest Chair, 402-379-9516

Project Application Checklist

Youth Philanthropy Contest

Please be sure to review all of the following:

- Reviewed the 2021 Contest Guidelines
- Completed ALL sections on the Online Application
- Included an attachment on the Online Application
- Reviewed the sample project scoring rubric
- Marked the upcoming dates on your calendar