

# Rooted in Service

# AWARDS & HONORS

NE-IA KEY CLUB



Applications Due  
March 1st, 2026



# International Awards

## Key of Honor

The highest recognition award presented by Key Club International to an advisor who has made a lifelong positive impact upon youth in general and Key Club specifically, or to an organization that should be honored for long-term support of youth and the Key Club program. No more than two Keys of Honor awards may be given in any year. Nominations are sent to the Key Club International Board for judging.

## Nininger Award

Recognition for special merit given to Key Club members who have demonstrated excellence and outstanding achievement as members of their Key Club. Any club or advisor may give this award to any deserving member.

## Major Emphasis Award

Recognition of the Key Club that has demonstrated exceptional effort in completing the best project on a local scale related to the theme of "Children: Their Future, Our Focus." To enter in the international competition, the district must submit entry forms for the first-place winner in the district report.

## Distinguished Club Award

Recognition of individual Key Clubs for their overall performance in the combined areas of club administration including growth, membership and leadership development, Kiwanis family involvement, service and fundraising. This award is given by Key Club districts and is recognized at the international convention.



# International Awards

## Oratorical Contest

Key Club members create an original speech (maximum of five minutes) in response to that year's prompt. The contest is judged at district and international levels and is based on the speech's content and delivery. A video is required in the entry form for international competition.

## Member Recruitment Poster Contest

A non-digital and digital poster contest designed to recruit new members for Key Club! Judging is based on originality, creativity, effectiveness for membership recruitment and overall appearance and artistic expression.

To enter in the international competition, the district must submit first place winners in the district report.

## Promotional Video Contest

Key Clubs submit a student-created video that reflects Key Club. The goal is to promote Key Club International as an organization and/or a Key Club within its respective school/community. To enter in the international competition, the district must submit entry forms for first and second place winners in the district report.

## Talent Contest

A contest that showcases the diverse talents of Key Club members from all around the globe. All talent entries that attend the international convention, are eligible to audition for international competition if they meet the requirements detailed in the talent contest rules. District report submission is not required.

# International Awards

## Year in Review Contests (Scrapbooks)

Key Clubs showcase their achievements throughout the service year through traditional and digital scrapbooks. Traditional scrapbooks consist of physical items, while digital scrapbooks use non-physical, online media. Both types of scrapbooks are divided into six categories with each category having numbered pages. A table of contents is included at the beginning of the scrapbook. To enter in the international competition, the district must submit entry forms for first and second place winners in the district report. Traditional scrapbooks must be brought to the international convention for competition.

## Single Service Award

Recognition of individual Key Clubs for the single best service project. The club's service project shall be planned, organized and produced by the Key Club and shall either occur on a single day, occur on consecutive days or recur on different days with the aim of achieving a goal. Clubs compete based on size, with judging criteria covering need, plan, implementation, final results, public awareness, and member participation. To enter in the international competition, the district must submit entry forms for the first-place winner for each club size division in the district report.

## Signature Project Award

Recognition of clubs for recurring projects that make a positive impact on communities. These projects must have been conducted at least annually for the past three to five years (with exceptions for COVID-19), and the clubs must have become known for them in their communities. Key Clubs entrants must use the online form found at [keyclub.org/contests-awards](http://keyclub.org/contests-awards) by the district's deadline or by the first Friday in May, whichever is sooner.

# Individual Awards

## Outstanding Faculty Advisor

Recognize your faculty advisors for all of their hard work and dedication to Key Club and your club throughout the year by nominating them for the Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award.

## Outstanding Kiwanis Advisor

Recognize your Kiwanis advisors for all of their hard work and dedication to Key Club and your club throughout the year by nominating them for the Outstanding Kiwanis Advisor Award.

## Outstanding Club President

This award is given to a 2024-2025 Key Club President who, during his/her term, has maintained strong attendance at various Kiwanis-family events including Kiwanis meetings, District Convention, and board meetings, all while leading and participating in club projects during his/her term. An Outstanding Club President has helped to achieve timely submission of dues and monthly reports, increased membership over the year, ensured that his/her club undertook meaningful and necessary service projects, involved his /her club in joint activities with their sponsoring Kiwanis Club, and arranged club elections for an incoming board.

## Outstanding Club Vice President

This award is given to a 2024-2025 Key Club Vice-President who, during his/her term, has maintained strong attendance in events such as Kiwanis meetings, District Convention, and board meetings, all while participating in and leading club projects during his/her term. An Outstanding Club Vice-President has been proactive, helpful, and ready to step in for his/her President whenever needed.

## Outstanding Club Secretary

This award is given to a 2024-2025 Key Club Secretary who has maintained strong attendance, which may have included Kiwanis meetings, District Convention, and board meetings, all while participating in and leading club projects during his/her term. He/she also helped follow up to achieve timely dues remittance and prepare and submit completed secretary reports in a timely manner to the district.



# Individual Awards

## Outstanding Club Treasurer

This award is given to a 2024-2025 Key Club Treasurer who maintained strong attendance at Kiwanis meetings, District Convention, and board meetings, all while participating in and leading club projects during his/her term. He/she also helped follow up to achieve timely dues remittance and prepared written financial reports for his/her club.

## Outstanding Club Editor

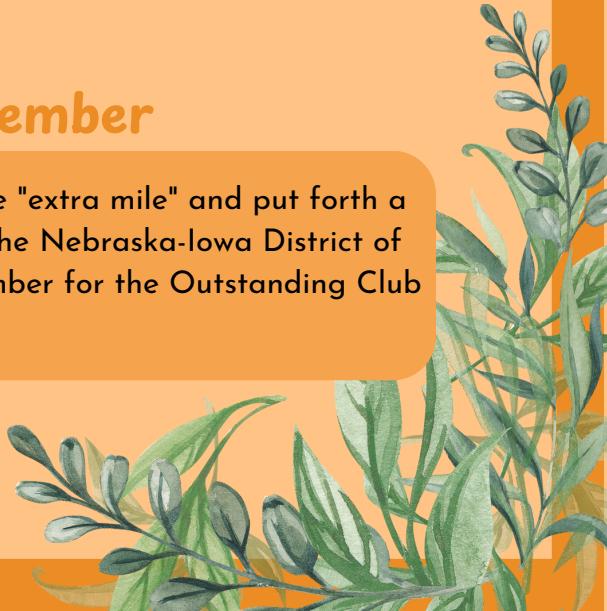
This award is given to a 2024-2025 Key Club Editor who, during his/her term, has maintained strong attendance at Kiwanis meetings, District Convention, and board meetings, all while participating in and leading club projects during his/her term. Additionally, he/she created newsletters and promotional graphics/materials that were well-designed and informative.

## Outstanding Club Webmaster

This award is given to a 2024-2025 Key Club Webmaster who, during his/her term, has maintained strong attendance at Kiwanis meetings, District Convention, and board meetings, all while participating in and leading club projects during his/her term. Additionally, he/ she created and/ or maintained the club website and assisted in creating promotional materials.

## Outstanding Club Member

Recognize that special club member who has gone the "extra mile" and put forth a special amount of time and effort in their work with the Nebraska-Iowa District of Key Club International. Nominate this exceptional member for the Outstanding Club Member Award.



# District Awards

## K-Family Award

This award is for clubs who have completed a service project with another branch of the K-Family, Aktion Club, K-Kids, Builder's Club, Circle K, or Kiwanis.

## Early Bird Dues Recognition

Clubs that pay dues before November 1st receive a patch for their club's banner.

## UNICEF Impact Award

This goes to clubs who specifically made a substantial effort to raise funds for this incredible organization. Clubs must raise \$250 or more though Trick-Or-Treat for UNICEF and submit the funds by the deadline of December 31st.

## Distinguished Club Award

The Distinguished Club award recognizes individual Key Clubs for their overall performance in the combined areas of club administration, membership and leadership development, Kiwanis family involvement, service, and fundraising as judged against a pre-established standard of excellence.

## Governor's Project Award

Clubs that donate various amounts towards the Governor's Project will receive various recognition and prizes. The club that donates the highest amount will name the two baby cow mascots for the Nebraska-Iowa District. The club that raises the second-highest amount will receive priority seating during the Award Ceremony at the District Convention.

# District Awards

## Milestone Makers Award

This recognition is presented to clubs that achieved a notable milestone by increasing their attendance at the District Convention (DCON) by 10% or more. This accomplishment highlights the clubs' commitment to encouraging active participation among their members and fostering a culture of engagement and enthusiasm for organizational events. Their efforts exemplify dedication to leadership, service, and the mission of the organization.

## Trailblazers Award

This award recognizes the club that achieved the most significant increase in attendance at the District Convention (DCON). It celebrates the club's efforts in promoting the event, inspiring member engagement, and fostering excitement for participation. By encouraging more members to attend, this club has demonstrated exceptional dedication to strengthening their involvement, building connections, and embracing the opportunities DCON offers for leadership development and service. Their remarkable growth in attendance reflects their commitment to the values and mission of the organization.

## How to Apply

Check out the [\*\*District Awards Packet\*\*](#) to find which awards apply to you! You can also apply for [\*\*International Awards\*\*](#) and be recognized at ICON!

You can find the application for every award in the above linked packets. Simply fill out the application form for your respective award(s) in the packets and send them to [area4@nikeyclub.com](mailto:area4@nikeyclub.com) or [nebraska@nikeyclub.com](mailto:nebraska@nikeyclub.com) in PDF format.

