

## AMERICAN SPIRIT AWARD

### OVERVIEW AND PURPOSE

The American Spirit Award is presented annually by the U.S. Air Force to an affiliated TSA chapter during the National TSA conference. Selection for this award is based on the overall value of civic objectives; the development of active civic leaders and citizens among the chapter members; and activities that perpetuate the American way of life. Each finalist receives a certificate award.

### ELIGIBILITY

All affiliated TSA chapters are eligible for the American Spirit Award and are encouraged to apply. Interested chapters should complete the application and return it by May 1 to National ISA. Projects must be held and completed during the current school year for eligibility.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Be brief and precise when describing your chapter's activities. You may submit five black and white photographs with descriptions of your projects. These photographs become the property of TSA and may be used for promotional purposes. The deadline for application submission is May 1 of each year.

### SELECTION PROCESS

The selection committee for the American Spirit Award is the TSA, Inc. Awards and Recognition Committee. This committee, appointed by the chairperson of the Board of Directors, includes at least one national officer. The selection committee rates all applications according to the following point scale:

| <u>CRITERIA</u>                                | <u>POINTS</u> |
|--|---------------|
| A. Overall chapter objectives                  | 25            |
| B. Specific chapter activities                 | 25            |
| C. Community need for projects                 | 10            |
| D. Process for determination of need           | 10            |
| E. Outside support                             | 5             |
| F. Promotion                                   | 10            |
| G. Recognition                                 | 5             |
| H. Community gratification and personal growth | 10            |
| TOTAL  | 100           |

The selection committee determines the top five applications based upon individual committee member assessment of each application. The awards committee chairperson distributes these five applications to the TSA, Inc. Board of Directors for the final selection.

Each board member selects three applications, awarding each of the three with point values on a scale of 1-3 (3 is the highest). The voting is by written ballot. The selection committee chair records the point values, and the application with the greatest number of points receives the award for the year.

## **DIRECTIONS**

Using no more than two pages, respond to the questions below. Include the following information at the top of the first page:

School

School address

State advisor

Chapter advisor

Telephone number

Number of chapter members

Be sure to identify each answer with its proper heading (A. Chapter Objectives, etc.).

### **A. CHAPTER OBJECTIVES (25 points)**

List the overall chapter objectives or goals. (Example: "Our main objective was to assist in the renovation and redesign of our community library while providing a perfect opportunity for chapter members to learn basic architectural skills and develop civic pride.")

### **B. CHAPTER ACTIVITIES (25 points)**

List each chapter activity and explain its relation to the objectives you listed in Section A. (Example: "Our first project was designing the floor plan for the reference section of the library.")

### **C. COMMUNITY NEED (10 points)**

Describe the project's value within the community. (Example: "Our local library was in desperate need of a renovation. Our chapter wanted to assist in developing the architectural design for it.")

### **D. COMMUNITY NEED ASSESSMENT (10 points)**

What means were used to determine this community need?

### **E. CIVIC SUPPORT (5 points)**

What other organizations shared in meeting your objectives'?

### **F. PROMOTION (10 points)**

What efforts were made to promote your activities to the community?

### **G. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS/REFERENCES (5 points)**

How was your chapter recognized for its activities?

### **H. COMMUNITY IMPACT (10 points)**

Describe the overall impact or benefits of the project(s) to the community and to the members of your chapter.

*Postmark Deadline: May 1*