

2009 Peer Leadership Conference Advisor of the Year Award Nominees

Congratulations to **Roni Thompson** of Millinocket for winning this year's Advisor of the Year Award! Read on to learn about the other awesome nominees...

Amy Theariult, SPRINT for Life, Mattanawcook Academy

- Although Amy wasn't able to make it to MYAN this year due to an operation, she spent lots of time setting things up and making them easy to understand for our replacement advisor.
- **One word:** Caring

Brittney Sampson, Memorial Middle School

- She's very nice and takes care of our school and makes sure school isn't a place to be scared of, a place where we want to do and she does that very well. She supports all of our school events and is just a nice person all around.
- **One word:** Kind

Bruce Dyer, Westbrook High School Mentoring Group

- Whenever our issues bother us, Mr. Dyer has always tended to our needs. He is the nicest man I know of.
- **One word:** Undescribable

Camille Saucier, Thornton Academy Middle School

- Mrs. Saucier is supportive and fun, and always thinking of new ideas for us. She is creative and smart and knows how to motivate us.
- She is respectful, responsible, compassionate, amazing, honest, "Da Bomb", and kind, too!
- **One word:** Helpful, talented

Cheryle Lessard, Biddeford Teen Center

- Cheryle for the last couple years has become a family member to us. She has saved teens' lives and pointed us in the right direction. She listens to us and helps us be heard from other teens and adults. She deserves this cause she has never really been thanked properly. We love Cheryle and she makes it safe for us to be exactly who we are—us.
- **One word:** Magnificent

Cindy Briggs, Berwick Academy

- She should be because our leadership program is brand new and she has done an amazing job leading us and getting the program started. She is also our school guidance counselor and handles all students in the high school as well. She is always there for every student and is great at relating issues kids have to adults to help change things.
- **One word:** Compassionate

Cindy Flye, Maranacook Community High School, Health Center Student Advisory Committee

- Cindy is devoted to improving the status of student-based school health centers, as well as encouraging invested youth to take active leadership positions in the school health environment and to lead discussions and propose plans to improve the quality of health and health centers state-wide.

Cynthia Dolben, Noble Student Health Advisory Board

- Mrs. Dolben is easily accessible to students in our group, and in the whole school. She is caring and gentle. She invests much of her time in meetings with students, district officials, and school board members. It seems like she never leaves.
- **One word:** Maternal

Heather Webb, Penquis Valley Civil Rights Team

- She does everything!
- **One word:** Ambitious

Jay Skriletz, Calais Middle School Teen Advocacy Group

- He should be named advisor of the year because he resurrected a dead group into a functioning, healthy group.
- **One word:** Dedicated

Jeff Kozaka, Mahoney Middle School

- Mr. Kozaka teaches us so many things. He teaches leadership skills. He develops us to grow to become the best we can be. Mr. Kozaka has taught me a lot in the past two years of Project Reach, leadership, meeting people, and to be friendly to everyone. He supports everything we decide to do in life. He is very smart, caring, friendly, and even more.
- **One word:** Supercalifradgilisticsxpiallidoucious. Not surely spelled right.

Joan Affonso, Strategies for a Stronger Sanford

- Our advisor can put up with our attitudes and energy a lot of the time.
- **One word:** Helpful

Joanna Shanklin, Old Town High School Youth Action Council

- Teaches us good leader skills and supports us in everything we do. Will help if she can
- **One word:** Fantabultastic!

Kathianne Shorey, Fryeburg Academy

- Mrs. Shorey definitely deserves the Advisor of the Year award. Not only does she support our thoughts and ideas, but she makes us motivated to make a change in our Fryeburg community and in the world. She is always involved and encourages us to be who we are and become who we want to be. Mrs. Shorey is the perfect choice for this award!
- **One word:** Encouraging

Katie Kondrat, Caring Unlimited, Young Adults Against Dating Abuse

- She has been our advisor all throughout the last 4 years! She is very helpful and makes everything fun. This is her last year being our advisor and we will miss her. She respects us and listens to our ideas. She helps us with everything, even our own problems. She's the absolute best!
- **One word:** Extraordinary

Katie Toole, Ellsworth SHAG

- Ms. Toole dedicates her time to her students. She leads 3 different groups at our school. She is also really laid back, supportive, and fun which makes her a really great advisor and facilitator. She is also one of our teachers so she promotes student learning and leadership.
- She totally saved the Student Health Awareness Group. Without her we would not be able to meet. She has only been involved with SHAG for a few months, but she already is incredibly dedicated and really cared about SHAG.
- **One word:** Enthusiastic, random, life saver

Kenny Miller, Ellsworth SHAG

- Kenny was handed this job last year because Michelle moved out of town so Kenny was there to take her place. And we appreciate it. He does everything for us and is always there when we need him. We hope you pick Kenny because we don't thank him enough!
- **One word:** Everything!

Kevin Dowling, Lincoln Academy Players

- He is always available to listen to us and help us.
- He always says, "Remember who you represent, your school, the LA Players, and most importantly, yourself."
- Guidance counselor and clinical health coordinator.
- He's a giant teddy bear, with a genuine personality, he's a friend to all of us.
- He's a peace maker for the group.
- **One word:** Reliable

Nancy Cotty, Wells High School, Civil Rights Team, YAP

- Ms. Cotty has all of the characteristics listed on the back, and shows all of these characteristics for her three groups that she advises. She is the kindest, most caring person we know.
- **One word:** Awesome!!!

Phyl Rubenstein, Deering/Portland School Based Health Centers

- Phyl should be Advisor of the Year because she is advisor to different groups and she devotes her full attention to both groups. She does not control either group. She advises us and helps us with anything we need. She has us plan and set up the projects but we run them.
- **One word:** Helpful

Rebecca Farnham, Freeport/Brunswick/Mt. Ararat YAP

- Rebecca is new to our school system and so far she is doing an amazing job. She brought us snacks on the first day of our meeting! She has coordinated events from California and has given us the freedom to choose what we want to do as a group.
- **One word:** Ambitious

Ryun Anderson, THRIVE

- My goal is not to dissuade you from accepting Ryun as your nominee, but rather to simply show how much she does for our Thrive community. Though I've only been part of Thrive for 3 months now, Ryun was one of the first people that reached out to me and welcomed me just as an advisor should. She goes above and beyond what is asked of her job to help do exactly what our group is designated to do...Thrive.
- **One word:** Supportive

Travis Jalbert, Westcott Junior High Hepple Club

- I think that Mr. Jalber should be Advisor of the Year because he is someone who lets our voices be heard. He is also dedicated to this group and helping in improving us.
- **One word:** Amazing

Scott Patch, Marshwood High School, MASK

- It is his birthday and he choose to come because he is a committed man. He has inspired all of us to be a better version of ourself. He has started our school to become more oriented in our kids.
- **One word:** Dedicated

Tim Woitowitz, Belfast YMCA YAP

- Because he has been part of this for years and this is his last thing
- **One word:** Leader

Tracy Hansen, Oxford Hills School Based Health Center Youth Advisory Board

- Her unselfish ideas that she brings to the discussion table act as a catalyst; a catalyst that elicits leadership, community involvement, and cooperative learning in our student group. Her work ethic has long since been recognized, it is time for her to receive gratification.
- **One word:** Altruistic