

The Ken Kurzweil Social Justice Recognition Award



We honor Ken Kurzweil by naming this award after him for his unparalleled experience, passion and years of service in supporting NYSUT's social justice agenda throughout his distinguished career and into his retirement. As an educator, he impacted the lives of students, fellow educators and other community members. He demonstrated the ability to inspire, lead, organize and engage other educators, parents and the community to advocate on social justice issues. He has been an ambassador and advocate for social justice issues and a tireless champion of civil and human rights issues.

Please print

Local/Chapter/Retiree Council _____

Contact person _____

Contact person's title _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Check any activities that the Local/Chapter/Retiree Council or any of your members have done in the last year. You must check off or list at least FIVE activities to qualify.

Please note: Very large locals like UFT or UUP must apply for recognition for INDIVIDUAL chapters.

Email completed forms to Andrea Tersigni: atersign@nysutmail.org

Mail to Andrea Tersigni at NYSUT HQ, 800 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham, NY 12110

Topics (check a minimum of one):

- Child Labor
- Conscious Purchasing and Fair Trade
- Domestic Abuse
- Educational Justice
- Hunger and Poverty
- Immigration Reform
- International Solidarity
- Labor Solidarity
- LGBTQ Solidarity
- Racial Justice
- Support for Human Rights
- Wage Equity
- Women's Issues, History and Rights
- Other



Check at least five activities that your Local/Chapter/Retiree Council participated in this year

CHILD LABOR

- Participated in NYSUT's Child Labor Challenge (Reverse Trick or Treat, "The Dark Side of Chocolate," Raise the Bar, Hershey campaign)
- Taught lessons or shown films about child labor beyond required curriculum
- Included information about child labor in union or school publications, websites or other means of communications
- Other (add activity) _____

CONSCIOUS PURCHASING AND FAIR TRADE

- Served Fair Trade products at union events or in union offices
- Used Fair Trade lessons or curriculum in classes or with union members
- Attended or hosted a Fair Trade training or workshop
- Included a link to the Fair Trade Project or Fair Trade Facebook on the Local/Chapter website
- Included information about Fair Trade in Local/Chapter publications
- Gave Fair Trade products as gifts for special occasions (i.e., SRP Day)
- Became a Fair Trade school
- Other (add activity) _____

DOMESTIC ABUSE

- Volunteered at a local women's shelter
- Collected diapers, baby food, toiletries, clothes for a women's shelter
- Other (add activity) _____

EDUCATIONAL JUSTICE

- Hosted a forum
- Lobbied for full funding
- Promoted equitable resources



- Attended and/or organized a rally
- Participated in a Day of Action or Walk-Ins for Public Education or Colleges
- Other (add activity) _____

HUNGER AND POVERTY

- Hosted a local food drive
- Recruited volunteers for a local food bank/pantry
- Organized support for a homeless shelter
- Volunteered at a soup kitchen
- Held an informational session at building-level meetings about hunger and poverty
- Other (add activity) _____

IMMIGRATION REFORM

- Supported Legislation — Dream Act and/or Immigration Reform
- Lobbied your legislator(s) (email, letters, call, fax)
- Attended a rally
- Educated members and public
- Held informational forum about the rights of undocumented children to public education
- Other (add activity) _____

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

- Supported the struggle of the people of Burma, Syria, and other areas
- Celebrated May 1 as International Workers Day
- Educated students and members about Genocide, both historic and contemporary
- Other (add activity) _____



LABOR SOLIDARITY

- Supported striking workers
- Supported National School-Related Professionals Day
- Supported Farmworker Fair Labor Practice Act
- Did a labor education program in your community, or Local/Chapter/Retiree Council
- Participated in solidarity action for workers in another state or country
- Participated in a Labor Day Parade
- Have celebrated Workers' Memorial Day on or around April 28
- Other (add activity) _____

LGBTQ SOLIDARITY

- Implemented anti-bullying actions, education or programs
- Encouraged members of your local to take the NYSUT LGBTQ Educator Task Force Survey
- Adopted a non-discrimination clause for your local union and district to consider
- Republished “It’s Time to Welcome Openly Gay Teachers in Our Schools” in your local or chapter newsletter
- Reached out to the NYSUT LGBTQ Task Force and invited them to create an LGBTQ Education and Awareness Campaign for your local or chapter
- Celebrated an LGBTQ-related day of action or remembrance such as: International Day for Tolerance (November), Transgender Day of Remembrance (November), World AIDS Day (December), Human Rights Day (December), GLSEN Day of Silence (April), etc.
- Other (add activity) _____

RACIAL JUSTICE

- Held a voter registration drive
- Conducted more than one ethnic history month celebration
- Used social media to promote racial justice issues
- Involvement, participation and awareness campaigns in a racial justice movement such as: #BlackLivesMatter, Immigration, etc.)



- Engaged the community in a collaborative racial justice movement
- Organized book clubs
- Held film showing
- Conducted community/classroom conversation
- Other (add activity) _____

SUPPORT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

- Implemented lessons from Speak Truth to Power Human Rights curriculum
- Educated members and students about the rights of elders
- Advocated against elder abuse
- Encouraged students and members to become human rights defenders through education about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- Observed Dec. 10 as International Human Rights Day
- Encouraged school participation in Speak Truth to Power program and/or video contest
- Used social media to inform and educate others about social justice issues
- Other (add activity) _____

WAGE EQUITY

- Attended Fight for \$15 rally
- Contacted legislators to support equal rights
- Promoted Equal Pay for Equal Work
- Other (add activity) _____

WOMEN'S ISSUES, HISTORY AND RIGHTS

- Have educated members and students about womens' rights
- Sought out and/or supported a female candidate running for a political office
- Sought out and supported (monetary, physical items, etc.) a Women's Support Group or Program to Stop Domestic Violence

- Participated in the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and/or took the Pledge to Eliminate Violence Against Women
- Hosted a financial assistance information night for single parents (cost of living, college assistance, etc.)
- Supported the Fight for \$15 and linked it to women's issues.
- Hosted a movie night featuring a women's issue/women's history film and held a panel discussion
- Developed a workshop that teaches young women how to be successful: interview skills, dressing for a job interview, how to be successful on the job, etc.
- Developed a workshop to address sexual harassment at school, in the workplace and/or in the community
- Created an internship program to develop leadership skills for young women
- Created a link with a girls' organization, such as Girl Scouts, to assist with the development of leadership skills
- Supported Planned Parenthood by creating a letter-writing campaign to legislators addressing the need to continue fully funding the program
- Other (add activity) _____

OTHER ACTIVITIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT

(Please be as specific as possible.)

Attach pictures and/or documents

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