



Rensselaer

Honors Convocation 2009

To: The Rensselaer Community
From: The Founders Award Committee
Date: April 2009
Re: 2009 Founders Award of Excellence

The 15th Annual Honors Convocation will be held on Saturday, October 24, 2009 at 10 a.m. Once again, the Founders Award Committee is asking for your assistance in identifying candidates for Rensselaer's Founders Award of Excellence, the highest honor of the Convocation ceremony.

The Founders Award of Excellence was established in 1994 to honor students who embody qualities of creativity, discovery, leadership, and the values of pride and responsibility at Rensselaer. The award consists of a special certificate, recognition by faculty, staff, and peers at the Honors Convocation ceremony, and a \$100 cash prize. This year we will be honoring approximately 70 excellent students from the Troy and Hartford campuses - about one percent of our student population.

We are seeking nominations from faculty, staff, and students for the Founders Award of Excellence.

Those students nominated should demonstrate:

- Strong academic standing. Successful candidates should be in the top 10% of their respective class.
- Pride and responsibility in all aspects of his or her life at Rensselaer.
- Outstanding leadership skills exhibiting discretion, judgment, and well-rounded regard for the opinions of others.
- Originality and imagination that may be evidenced by the potential to solve problems and possess skills to promote new ideas and theories in his/her field of study.

Successful nominations need to address *all* areas outlined above and be *limited to two pages*. Nominations should be submitted to the offices listed on the Nomination Form.



The Rensselaer Community
April 2009

Eligible nominees must be enrolled as one of the following categories in the **Fall Semester of 2009**:

- Sophomore
- Junior
- Senior
- Fifth-year Architecture student
- Graduate student (full or part-time)

Students may receive the Founders Award of Excellence only once during their tenure at Rensselaer. Nominators are encouraged to submit supporting documentation with the Nomination Form or ask others to join in endorsing an excellent candidate. A nomination may be supported by more than one nominator.

Please complete the attached Nomination Form and return it to the appropriate office listed no later than **Friday, May 22, 2009**

Founders Award Committee:

Michael Hanna; *Committee Chair*

Associate Professor of Biology and Associate Dean for Academic Advising, Assessment, and Special Programs

Prabhat Hajela

Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education

Rick Hartt '70

Managing Director, Rensselaer Union

Kathleen Ruiz

Associate Professor of Arts

Lisa Trahan

Assistant Vice President, Student Experience



Founders Award of Excellence
Nomination Form

Instructions:

Nominations for the Founders Award of Excellence should detail how the nominee meets each of the criteria on the reverse side. Supporting information should accompany each nomination.

The students nominated must be enrolled in the Fall 2009 semester.

Nominee _____
:

Address: _____

Major: _____

Phone: _____

Sophomore Junior Senior 5th Year Arch. Graduate Student (please circle one)

Nominator: _____

Campus Address: _____

Phone: _____

Faculty Staff Student (please circle one)

Please submit your nomination to the appropriate office no later than Friday, May 22, 2009.

School of Architecture
Office of the Dean
115 Greene Building

**School of Humanities,
Arts, and Social
Sciences**
Office of the Dean
5304 Sage Lab

**Lally School of Management
and Technology**
Office of the Dean
3104 Pittsburgh Building

School of Engineering
Office of the Dean
3006 JEC

School of Science
Office of the Dean
1C05 Science Center

Information Technology
Office of the Associate Dean
206 Lally Hall

Rensselaer at Hartford
Office of the Vice President



Rensselaer

Honors Convocation 2009

and Dean
Hartford Campus



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Nominee: _____
—

In your nomination, please provide a narrative of the student's accomplishments with supporting material in the following areas:

- Provide information, such as accomplishments, prizes, grade point average, etc., that demonstrate strong academic standing.
- Explain how the student exemplifies the values of pride and responsibility in all aspects of his or her life at Rensselaer.
- Explain how the student demonstrates outstanding leadership skills with discretion, judgment, and well-rounded regard for the opinions of others.
- Provide ways in which the student demonstrates excellent originality and imagination which may be evidenced by the potential to solve problems and possess skills in the promotion of new ideas and theories in his/her field of study.

Submit by Friday, May 22, 2009

A copy of this form may be downloaded at the following web address:

www.rpi.edu/news/foundersaward