

OCAD University

Teaching Assistant of the Year Award

Nature of Award

This is an annual award presented to a teaching assistant in recognition of outstanding teaching at OCAD University.

Eligibility

Any teaching assistant who has taught one or more course at OCAD University in the Spring 2018, Summer 2018 and Fall 2018 terms is eligible for this award. Members of the selection committee cannot be considered for the current year.

Nomination Procedure

Any student, faculty or staff member at OCAD University community is welcome to complete the online web form explaining why a teaching assistant should be the recipient of this award. Calls for nominations are sent out in November. The deadline for all nominations is traditionally mid-December.

In January, the selection committee meets to review the nominations and, if necessary, create a shortlist of candidates. Shortlisted teaching assistants may be asked to submit a two-page teaching philosophy statement and up to five pages of additional supporting documents to provide the selection committee with additional pertinent information (see details below).

Nomination Criteria

Nominees should exhibit most or all of the following desired qualities:

- a. Providing support to the faculty member
- b. Constructing/dispensing resources for learning
- c. Aiding in the development of student skills
- d. Responding to student questions
- e. Other responsibilities in the service of learning

Teaching Philosophy & Additional Supporting Documents

Workshops are held in February to facilitate the creation of a teaching philosophy for shortlisted candidates. Additional sessions or consultations are available to aid in the construction of supporting documents, which may include (where applicable):

- Peer/colleague reference letters
- Former student reference letters
- Feedback from classroom observations
- Student Feedback on Courses scores
- Rubrics or marking schemes
- Assignment guides
- Samples of student work (with permission)
- Sample course outline(s)

Presentation of Award

The Teaching Assistant of the Year Award is presented at the Faculty Appreciation Event, which is usually held at the end of April. The winner receives a certificate and their name will be included on the list of winners on the university's website.