

Adjunct Faculty Award - Call for Nominations

Nominations are due by noon on Friday, February 23, 2024

The American Federation of Teachers (AFT) Local 2373 calls for nominees for the Adjunct Faculty Award for excellence in academic instruction. We seek to recognize AFT Local 2373's adjunct faculty members who demonstrate student centered teaching practices that promote student learning. The creation of this accolade is in line with other honors that recognize outstanding contributions to the university, such as the Gary J. Hunter, Joseph Barnes, and Frances S. Johnson awards. Through building upon the ideals of these awards, this honor acknowledges the efforts of AFT Local 2373's adjunct faculty members, making sure that their efforts do not go unappreciated.

Criteria for Award

The academic and professional success of all Rowan students is not exclusively held by tenure or non-tenure track faculty. Instead, it is held by the collective output of all Rowan University educators. The purpose of this award is to acknowledge the commitment, service, and quality education that adjunct faculty members provide students, but also the departments they represent. All nominees must be adjunct faculty members* who have taught at Rowan University within the equivalent of four academic semesters.

Nomination

The nomination of an AFT adjunct faculty member should describe how the individual has been exceptional in serving their college through their teaching, and providing academic instruction to their students. Specific examples supporting nominations are encouraged, and self-nominations will be accepted. Nominees must be dues paying AFT members. To be considered for the award, a letter of support must be submitted for each nomination. It is encouraged that supporting documentation (course evaluations, personal statements, emails, quotes, etc.) from students, staff, and faculty members can be included in the submission.

The following statements are examples of qualities that can contribute to the characteristics of the nominee. These are listed in no particular order of importance, and a nominee need not demonstrate all of the qualities listed below:

- Exhibits instructional improvements and demonstrates exceptional teaching.
- Illustrates concern for students as people and support of their personal, social, and career development.
- Promotes the academic advancement of students.
- Provides innovative and creative instructional delivery.

Decisions

Decisions will be made by a selection committee of AFT members ideally from the following groups: faculty (including lecturers), professional staff, and adjunct faculty members with representation from different colleges. Members of the selection committee are ineligible to be nominated or to nominate someone else for the award. The award plus an honorarium will be presented annually to the person whose efforts are judged by the selection committee to epitomize excellence in academic instruction. Lastly, the most recent awardee will have the opportunity to serve on the selection committee, and can aid with the selection of a new honoree.

*Adjunct faculty members are those covered by the adjunct faculty unit contract and are not otherwise employees of Rowan University.

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Funding & Presentation of Award

The awardee will receive a monetary contribution of \$200 and a plaque for their recognition. The union will cover all funding and taxes related to this payment, as well as the cost of the plaque. The awardee and university will not be responsible for any additional costs or fees associated with this award.

Nomination Process

1. In approximately 750 words, complete a letter of support that describes how the nominee's instruction has enhanced students' education. In this nomination, the nominator must explain their relationship to the nominee, as well as how the nominee distinguished themselves for this award. Consult the nomination section for possible qualities that can be cited. Share specific stories and anecdotes, as appropriate.
2. Submit the *Nomination Form Cover Sheet* (found below) and a letter of support to aft2373@gmail.com, with the subject line reading "AFT Adjunct Faculty Award" by noon on Friday, February 23, 2024.

Award Timeline

Call for Nominations Issued	December to February
Nomination Due Date	Noon on Friday, February 23, 2024
Committee reviews recommendations & submits recommendations to AFT Leadership	March
Recipient Receives the Award	April to May

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Nomination Form - Cover Sheet:

Nominee (must be an AFT member of Local 2373): _____

Nominee Department or Affiliation: _____

Nominee Rowan University Email: _____

Nominee Personal Email: _____

Nominee Phone Number: _____

Nominator Name: _____

Nominator's Position (must be an AFT member of Local 2373): _____

Nominator Department or Affiliation: _____

Nominator Rowan University Email: _____

Nominator Phone Number: _____