

Most Outstanding Local Chapter Single Project Entry (SPE)

1. Local Economic Development Program

Programs conducted with the goals of creating, increasing, or improving business and economic opportunities and/or productivity in the local community. Also, this includes strategic planning projects and programs conducted to raise funds to pay for the operation and expenses of the local JCI chapter. (NOTE: The PMG's primary purpose must state that the money is benefiting the chapter – not a charitable donation or organization.) Projects that obtain positive recognition for the chapter or establish, maintain, or improve a favorable relationship between the chapter and the public would also fall under this category.

Project Examples: Chamber of Commerce involvement, How to Start Your Own Business, Investment Clubs, Speakers from Successful Local Companies, How to Write a Project Management Guide, Planning Needs and Analysis, Record Keeping, Board Retreats, Short-term and Long-term Planning, Haunted House, Parking Cars, Raffle, Running a County Fair, Press Releases, Distinguished Service Awards, Parades, Pageants, Newsletters, Websites, Marketing or Public Relations Training, etc... Judging Criteria: Objectives, Planning, Finance, and Execution. Promotion of Free Enterprise. Impact on Local Economy. Impact on Community and Participants. Partnerships and Public Relations.

2. Inter-organization Collaboration Project

Projects conducted to provide benefit to chapters and their members from collaborating with members of other JCI USA and JCI organizations. Local chapters can increase their impact by working together with other organizations. This category also includes some projects conducted for State, JCI USA and JCI emphasis programs.

Project Examples: Twinning, Outstanding Young Farmer (OYF), Any collaboration between Region, State, JCI USA, or JCI chapters, etc... (NOTE: PMG's primary purpose must state if the project is a State emphasis program if it is not obvious but the name. ex: To raise money for the JCI Nevada's state priority project, the Las Vegas Children's Home.)

Judging Criteria: Objectives, Planning, Finance and Execution. Cooperation between the organizations. Impact on Members and Contribution to the JCI USA Vision. Impact on Community. Long-term Impact of the Program.

3. Local Personal Skill Development Program

Programs conducted that further the JCI USA Mission by creating development opportunities for young people to create positive change and developing the skills of individuals. This category also includes projects that provide social opportunities (chapter activities), as well as family involvement opportunities for chapter members and their families.

Project Examples: Time Management, Public Speaking, Family Day at the Zoo, New Member Orientation, How to Deal With Difficult People, A speaker explaining the principles of Buddhism,

Putt-Putt Golfing, Movie Night, Passport to Civic Leadership, How to Change a Flat Tire, Chapter Awards, etc...

Judging Criteria: Objectives, Planning, Finance and Execution. Membership Participation. Skills Developed. Impact on Participants. Long-term Impact of the Program.

4. Local Growth and Development Program

Programs conducted that aim to grow JCI USA to create development opportunities for more young people in their community. This category includes member recruitment, and recruitment drives to establish new chapters or save existing chapters.

Project Examples: M-Nights, Door-to-Door Membership Recruiting, Growth Week Activities, Chartering a Chapter, etc...

Judging Criteria: Objectives, Planning, Finance and Execution. Involvement of the Local Board of Directors and Members. Methods of Implementation. Results Achieved. Long-term Impact of the Program.

5. Local Community Empowerment Program - William B. Robertson Award

Programs conducted that are designed to promote or improve the quality of life for people in the community and assist with community needs and extend the JCI USA Mission. Included in this category would be projects that raise funds for non-JCI USA programs and charities in the local community and for children and youth which promote and encourage their involvement in activities and/or the learning of personal and leadership skills. Government involvement in all areas of the local, state, and national governmental process, plus projects designed to provide the education of laws and governmental processes would be in this category. Also included in this category are projects conducted to improve the natural world, especially the preservation, management, and care of natural and community resources.

Project Examples: Game Night at the Senior Citizens Center, hosting a "How to Buckle in a Child Seat" event, Model Legislation, Get Out the Vote, Meals on Wheels, Political Debates, Blood Drive, Collecting canned food for the local food pantry, Working at a homeless shelter, Adopt-A-Highway, Planting trees in a park, Phone book recycling, Easter Egg Hunt, Reading to kindergarteners, Kid Care fingerprinting, A youth leadership weekend for high school students, T-ball tournament, Summer soccer league, Raising money to help a local person get a kidney transplant, Holding a car wash for the domestic violence shelter, Collecting coins for the Ronald McDonald House, Selling raffle tickets to raise money to help a local dance troop to compete at out-of-state finals, A fundraiser for a camp for children supported as a "emphasis" or "priority" project by your state (ex: Camp JCI Virginia), etc...

Judging Criteria: Objectives, Planning, Finance and Execution. Membership Participation. Community Impact. Impact on Local Organization. Long-term Impact of the Program.

6. Long-term Local Community Development Program - Dr. Jerry Bruce Memorial Award

Projects and programs run over a period of more than one year to improve the community and extend the JCI USA Mission. Similar to the “Local Community Empowerment Program” category, but the duration of the project would be different (greater than one year).

Project Examples: See “Local Community Empowerment Program” award category. Judging Criteria: Objectives, Planning, Finance and Execution. Membership Participation. Community Impact. Impact on Local Organization. Long-term Impact of the Program.

7. Local Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Program

Programs that further the UN Global Compact’s Mission to promote and spread the values of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). CSR is about how a business takes account of its economic, social, and environmental impacts in the way it is operated-maximizing the benefits and minimizing the downsides. CSR has acquired prominence in recent years due to increased global awareness as regards corporate citizenship and environmental footprints. CSR as a concept has been embedded in several countries through various regulatory measures that compel businesses to adopt stringent measures to avoid pollution, treat effluents, prevent reckless use of scarce resources, and to avert the mistreatment of employees and the customers alike.

Project Examples: See JCI Website for additional information.

Judging Criteria: Objectives, Planning, Finance, and Execution. Community Impact. Alignment to One or More of the Ten Principles (see Appendix B) Through Concrete Measures. Results Achieved. Impact on Local Organization. Long-term Impact of the Program.

8. Local United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDG) Project

Projects that are specific to the goals listed, that work with the United Nations

Sustainable Development Goals. At the Millennium Summit in September 2000, the largest gathering of world leaders in history, adopted the UN Millennium Declaration, committing their nations to a new global partnership to reduce extreme poverty and setting out a series of time-bound targets with a deadline of 2015. In 2015, the group reconvened and built a new list of targets with a deadline of 2030. These targets have become known as the Sustainable Development Goals.

Goal 1: No Poverty
Goal 2: No Hunger
Goal 3: Good Health
Goal 4: Quality Education
Goal 5: Gender Equality
Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
Goal 7: Renewable Energy
Goal 8: Good Jobs and Economic Growth
Goal 9: Innovation and Infrastructure
Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities
Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
Goal 12: Responsible Consumption
Goal 13: Climate Action
Goal 14: Life below Water
Goal 15: Life on Land
Goal 16: Peace and Justice
Goal 17: Partnership Goals

Project Examples: For the best examples of UN SDG projects, log on to the JCI Website at www.jci.cc and find the heading “Programs.” Select “Project Gallery” then use the dropdown menu to choose your options. If you have difficulties, contact the National Awards Committee.

Judging Criteria: Objectives, Planning, Finance and Execution. Membership Participation. Community Impact. Link with UN Agencies and/or Partners. Long-term Impact of the Program

9. Best Local Peace Project

Projects focus on some of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals with the intent to educate and create dialogue across cultures, demographics, genders, ages, society issues, and communities. With the objective of creating peace, locally and globally, these projects are of benefit to communities and individuals working together towards the great good.

Project Examples: Anti-Bullying Campaign, Cross-Cultural Dialogue, International Day of Peace, Acts of Kindness, Global/Climate Change Awareness, Earth Day, a Peace Garden, etc...

Judging Criteria: Objectives, Planning, Finance and Execution, Cooperation for the ‘Sake of World Peace’, Community Impact, Impact of Local Organization, and Long-term Impact of the Program.

Youth Category: Youth Chapter SPE

Projects run by JCI USA chartered Youth Chapters in any above category. Each state can submit up to five (5) youth SPEs overall.

Judging Criteria: Objectives, Planning, Finance and Execution, Impact on Individual Members, Community Impact, and Alignment with the JCI USA Vision, Mission and Values. Also 'how effective was the youth/mentor relationship' and the 'overall impact of the project/program.'

Some tips for determining how to classify chapter SPE projects

- A fundraising project must be classified in the Award Category according to whom the funds raised are benefiting: the chapter or a charitable cause. Under no circumstances should a project have the primary purpose of raising money for both the chapter and a charitable cause. Choose one (the chapter or a charity) as the primary recipient of the funds (thus indicating under which category the project should be classified) and make it one of the project's goals to also provide money to the second cause.
- Remember - JCI members from other states will be judging your projects. You and everyone in your state know what your state's "emphasis" or "priority" projects are. However, many judges from other states may not realize this is a program "adopted by" and supported by all the chapters in your state. Thus, unless you specify in your nomination form that this is a state-supported or state-run project or program, a judge may think that your project was submitted for judging under the wrong category and thus may not rank your project appropriately when judging your entry.
- State emphasis programs or priority projects are classified under "Best Inter-Organization Collaboration Project" awards category.
- Even if it is a long-running project for your chapter and everyone in your state knows it by name, be sure to consider that the judge may not be familiar with your project or even any project of its type. Be sure to give a solid explanation of the project's concept and its history.

Single Project Entry Submission

- A specific project may be entered in only one (1) of the nine (9) Single Project Award Categories. Under no circumstances may the same project be submitted and considered for an award in more than one (1) Award Category in the same award year.
- A State Organization may submit up to Three (3) projects in each of the nine (9) Single Project Award Categories. Only projects that are certified by a State President or JCI USA National Vice President will be considered for recognition.
- Each state organization is eligible to submit up to five (5) projects for the Youth SPE.
- A SPE Submission will include a submission form. Additional Substantiation such as photos or documents is always welcome. Providing additional substantiation is encouraged as it does assist the judges in getting a full picture of the project.