



2025 PASEsetter Awards

Nominations for Outstanding Afterschool Educators

On **Wednesday, February 26, 2025** at Cipriani 42nd Street in New York City, **the Partnership for After School Education (PASE)** will host its annual **PASEsetter Awards Benefit**, honoring afterschool educators whose commitment, energy and creativity have had an indelible impact on the children and youth of New York City.

We expect over four hundred people – representatives from the corporate, higher education, media, academic, government, and philanthropic sectors, as well as PASE network practitioners and the PASE Board of Directors – to join in this special celebration and honor five of the city’s most innovative and effective afterschool educators.

A selection committee will select five PASEsetter Award Winners from the nominations, who will be the guests of honor at the 2025 PASEsetter Awards Benefit. PASEsetters will be asked to make a speech and their biographies and photos will be shared.

Each award recipient will receive a crystal award and a **\$1,000 Cash Award**, a **\$4,000 Cash Award** for their agency, 10 tickets to the 2025 PASEsetter Awards Benefit, as well as acknowledgement at a pre-awards reception, and recognition on the PASE website, email list, and social media.

Who is a PASEsetter?

- A staff person at a youth-serving agency in New York City whose *primary work* is directly with young people in afterschool, in the evenings, and/or during the summers.
- Nominees must be paid staff, not volunteers, working either full or part-time and have worked a **minimum of three years** at their current agency.
- A staff person who attended an afterschool program growing up and who is now working in afterschool will be given special consideration by the selection committee.
- No nominations will be accepted from an agency that has had a PASEsetter Award winner within the last three award years (2022, 2023, and 2024). *See FAQ page on p. 4 for list of 2022, 2023, and 2024 agencies.*
- Executive Directors are NOT eligible.

Where must a PASEsetter work in order to be nominated?

PASEsetter nominees must work at either a community-based or school-based afterschool program located in the five boroughs of New York City. This includes faith-based, school-based, privately funded, publicly funded, sectarian and non-sectarian programs.

What qualities does a PASEsetter have?

PASEsetters are afterschool educators who have made a significant impact on youth, families, and communities. They've shown commitment, creativity and leadership when it comes to helping young people succeed. PASEsetters start new initiatives and see them through, while being a role model for their program participants and for other afterschool educators.

What is the PASEsetter Winner selection process?

A selection committee, comprised of institutional funders, PASE board and junior board members, and past PASEsetter winners, will review nominations and select the five 2025 winners. Both winners and non-winners will be notified in mid-December 2024.

What criteria does the selection committee use when selecting awardees?

The selection committee considers the following criteria when reviewing nominee applications:

- Has the nominee demonstrated consistent dedication to the young people in their agency?
- Has the nominee demonstrated innovation and creativity in youth programming?
- Has the nominee been a guide, listener, and advocate on behalf of youth and their families?
- Have they provided leadership to the youth and/or the community to create positive change?
- Have they collaborated with peers and colleagues in creating and delivering services – and shared this knowledge with others?
- How long have they been in the field?
- Whether they are an alumnus of the afterschool program
- Ethnic and gender diversity, and geographic diversity of organizations
- Number of children impacted by the PASEsetter nominee's work

Can I include photos and other supporting documentation in my nomination?

Yes! PASEsetter nominations have become quite competitive – please include as much supporting documentation and information as you would like to highlight about your PASEsetter nominee. Nominations may include photos, news clippings, links to videos, and testimonials from colleagues, parents, and/or youth participants.

Who can nominate a PASEsetter and how?

Anyone can nominate a PASEsetter. If you work at an afterschool program where you think you have a PASEsetter, **please visit: bit.ly/2025PASEsetterNom** and complete an application **by Tuesday, October 29th, 2024.**

Additional questions? Join us for an application clinic!

PASE will hold two virtual application clinics to review the PASEsetter nomination guidelines, answer questions, and offer tips on creating a winning nomination. Join us on **Wednesday, October 9th, 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm ([register here](#))** or **Monday, October 21st, 10:00 am – 11:00 am ([register here](#))**.

Visit bit.ly/2025PASEsetterNom to complete the nomination form.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Can more than one individual be nominated from the same organization?

Yes, but only one person per organization can be selected as a 2025 PASEsetter Award Winner. We would recommend consolidating efforts to present one robust nomination, but if you have several compelling nominees and the capacity to submit thorough nominations for all of them, you are welcome to.

My organization has had a PASEsetter winner in the past – am I eligible to submit a nomination?

Nominations will not be accepted from an agency that has had a PASEsetter Award winner within the last three years. If a winner from your organization was recognized in March 2022, February 2023, or February 2024, a nomination from your organization will not be accepted this year.

- **2022 Agencies:** BioBus, Good Shepherd Services, Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Center, Mercy Center, University Settlement of NY.
- **2023 Agencies:** BronxWorks, CAMBA, Chinese-American Planning Council, Groove With Me, Sunnyside Community Services.
- **2024 Agencies:** Global Kids, New Settlement, UpBeat NYC, Read Alliance, Writopia Lab.

My nominee has worked in afterschool for years, but only joined my agency 18 months ago – are they eligible for nomination?

Unfortunately, no. Nominees must have worked a minimum of 3 years at their current agency.

Can I nominate myself?

Yes, but other people bragging about you often makes a more compelling case. If nominating yourself, we encourage you to incorporate other voices (testimonials from colleagues, supervisors, students, etc.) to position yourself for success.