The SYP Awards are an annual celebration, held every year at the March National Sitting, which recognises the amazing work that Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYPs) and their Support Workers do to represent Scotland’s young people.

Guidelines for nominations:

Nominations can be made by anyone. The deadline for nominations for the 2016 SYP Awards is **9am on Monday 25th January 2016**.

After the nomination period has ended, an independent panel of judges, including a young person and former MSYP, will meet to discuss each of the nominations and to agree the winners. The winners will be announced at the awards ceremony during the March National Sitting on the evening of Saturday 12th March 2016.

There are seven categories, and the details of these can be found later in this document. Please take time to read through each of the criteria and think about how your nominee has demonstrated these.

Before making your nomination(s), please note:

- Nominations will be judged strictly on the criteria listed under each category;
- Each nomination must not be more than 500 words - any words above this limit will be removed before judging;
- Nominations can be supported by photographs, videos and/or other documents, but SYP is not able to return these so please do not send originals;
- MSYPs and Support Workers cannot nominate themselves for an award;
- Core SYP staff (i.e. the team that works in the SYP office) cannot be nominated for an award;
- Nominations can be submitted by anyone and are not limited to just MSYPs or Support Workers - please promote this in your area;
- Nominations must be submitted on the SYP Awards nomination form, and can be submitted by email to Jenny Bruce, at [Jennifer.B@syp.org.uk](mailto:Jennifer.B@syp.org.uk), or online at [https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2016SYPAwardsNomination](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2016SYPAwardsNomination);
- Nominations must be submitted before the deadline of **9am on Monday 25th January 2016**, and nominations submitted after this date will not be accepted.

Remember, the judging panel doesn’t know who your nominees are, so the more detail you give the better chance they have of winning an award. If you know someone who feels the same about your nominee, encourage them to submit a nomination too.

If you have any questions about the SYP Awards, please email Jenny Bruce, Administration and Public Affairs Assistant, at [Jennifer.B@syp.org.uk](mailto:Jennifer.B@syp.org.uk).
The MSYP of the Year Award

The MSYP of the Year Award is the most prestigious of the SYP Awards. It is presented to the Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament who, through their passion, commitment and determination, has delivered the most impact for the SYP over the last year.

Judging criteria:

What has the nominee done to be an example of an outstanding and inspirational MSYP?
What has the nominee done to go above and beyond their remit as an MSYP?
How has the nominee’s work benefited the work of the Scottish Youth Parliament?
What impact has the nominee’s work made to the young people of Scotland?

Any current MSYP can be nominated for this award.

The Ros Clark Support Worker of the Year Award

Ros Clark was a Support Worker from Midlothian who sadly passed away a few years ago. Ros was a great supporter of the Scottish Youth Parliament and, in recognition of this, the SYP Board voted to rename this award in her memory. The Support Worker of the Year award is presented to the Support Worker who has gone the extra mile to help individual or collective groups of MSYPs to achieve all that they can at SYP.

Judging criteria:

What has the Support Worker done to go the extra mile to help MSYPs?
How has the Support Worker helped MSYPs to participate in the Scottish Youth Parliament?
What is it about the Support Worker that makes them outstanding and inspirational?

Any Support Worker or Youth Worker who regularly works with MSYPs and is employed by a Local Authority or a National Voluntary Organisation can be nominated for this award.
Area or Group of the Year Award

This award is for the group of MSYPs in a Constituency, Local Authority area, National Voluntary Organisation, Subject Committee or other similar group that has done great things for the benefit of Scotland’s young people over the past year.

Judging criteria:

What has the group done to benefit the work of the Scottish Youth Parliament and young people in Scotland?

How has the group gone above and beyond what is expected?

What barriers have the group encountered and overcome through their work?

Any area or group of current MSYPs (as outlined above) can be nominated for this award.

Achievement of the Year Award

This award is for a single outstanding achievement over the last year. It will go to an achievement which is recognised as having had a significant positive impact on SYP’s work. The category is open to achievements by an MSYP, Support Worker, group, area or a combination of these.

Judging criteria:

What has the nominee achieved in the last year?

Why is this an outstanding achievement?

How has the achievement significantly benefited the work of the Scottish Youth Parliament?

Current MSYPs, Support Workers, groups, areas or a combination of these can be nominated for this award.
SYP Awards Categories

**The Communicator of the Year Award**

The Communicator of the Year award aims to recognise the efforts of the MSYP who has done the most to publicly advance the work of SYP, and who demonstrates excellence in communication.

**Judging criteria:**
- What has the MSYP done to show that they are an excellent ambassador for the Scottish Youth Parliament?
- How does the MSYP use their communication skills to represent the young people in their constituency?
- How has the MSYP used new media (e.g., social media, blogs etc) and/or other creative methods to promote the work of the Scottish Youth Parliament?

Any current MSYP can be nominated for this award.

**The John McCann Unsung Hero Award**

The Scottish Youth Parliament brings together young people from a diverse range of backgrounds and, in recognition of this, the John McCann Unsung Hero award will go to an MSYP who has overcome significant barriers to raise the voice of the young people they represent.

**Judging criteria:**
- What barrier(s) (e.g., personal, financial, community-based) has the MSYP overcome?
- Why do you feel the MSYP’s activities remain ‘unsung’ or unrecognised?

Any current MSYP can be nominated for this award.

**The ‘One to Watch’ Award**

This award recognises the MSYP whose achievements over the last year suggest that they have the potential to have a major impact in the years to come - a future SYP star.

**Judging criteria:**
- How has the MSYP’s work made an impact on the work of the Scottish Youth Parliament?
- What is it about the MSYP that makes them ‘One to Watch’?
- How do you see the nominee impacting on the work of the Scottish Youth Parliament in the future?

Any current MSYP can be nominated for this award.