



South Dakota Association for the Education of Young Children

## Citizens Award

**SDAEC membership NOT required**

1. Members of the South Dakota news media for increasing public awareness of children’s rights and needs during the past year.
2. Public Officials on the local, state or national levels representing South Dakota who have been sensitive to children’s issues during the past year.
3. Community leaders who consistently act as child advocates.
4. Authors from South Dakota who have excited the minds of young children or early childhood professionals.
5. Artists (dancers, actors, etc.) who have creatively expressed issues of children or who have helped children discover a fresh way to learn.
6. Inventors who have created toys or equipment from exceptionally safe, creative learning opportunities.

	1	2	3	Score
<b>Innovation</b>	1. Citizen takes new ideas, methods, products, or solutions and uses them in a significant positive way causing impact and value for children and families.	<b>Meets criteria 1 and:</b> 2. Communicates and shares new ideas, methods, products that have made a positive impact within their community.	<b>Meets criteria 1 &amp; 2 and:</b> 3. Contributions to the children and families within their community is seen or heard outside their own community.	
<b>Leadership</b>	1. Citizen influences and guides people to join an organization, society, or team.	<b>Meets criteria 1 and:</b> 2. Successfully have raised group interest or attendance.	<b>Meets criteria 1 &amp; 2 and:</b> 3. Strives for, and maintains a position within an organization, society, or team.	
<b>Advocates</b>	1. Citizen is improving the lives of children and families by influencing legislators’ and policymakers’ opinions and activities.	<b>Meets criteria 1 and:</b> 2. Continues to keep public officials well informed on topics concerning children and families.	<b>Meets criteria 1 &amp; 2 and:</b> 3. Attends advocacy events at local and state levels sharing their concerns for children and families.	
<b>Relationships</b>	1. Citizen is making meaningful connections with children, families, policy makers, law makers, or anyone working for the children and families within their community.	<b>Meets criteria 1 and:</b> 2. Strives to build bonds within the Early Childhood field.	<b>Meets criteria 1 &amp; 2 and:</b> 3. Interacts, and works closely with local groups and events within the community.	
<b>Total</b>				