



UCT inAction

Information for UCT's Members and Councils

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Get Out the Vote – Help UCT Award \$15,000!

UCT Gives Back...AGAIN is awarding a total of \$15,000 to two deserving schools... and YOU decide which ones!

That's right – 10 deserving finalists have been selected from schools that submitted videos showing how the \$10,000 first place prize and \$5,000 second place prize would help their program for students with intellectual disabilities, or for students training to become teachers of students with intellectual disabilities. These schools need YOUR support to earn votes. So...GET THE WORD OUT!

Here's how you can spread the word about UCT Gives Back... AGAIN Voting:

- Post a link to the **UCT Gives Back... AGAIN** voting page on your Facebook page and ask your friends to share it
- Email your friends and contacts and ask them to vote – be sure to include a link to **UCT Gives Back...AGAIN**
- Use the social sharing buttons on the **UCT Gives Back...AGAIN** voting page to tweet about the contest
- Fans can vote once every 24 hours and voting runs through March 14, 2014, so don't delay...get the word out TODAY!

In case you didn't hear – UCT Gives Back...AGAIN is a video contest for schools in the U.S. and Canada with programs for people with intellectual disabilities or universities with programs to train special education teachers. The winning schools will be announced and awarded their prizes in late March.

UCT calling for Volunteer of the Year Award nominations!

Every local council has at least one member who goes the extra mile in providing outstanding volunteer service to his or her council and community each year. You can recognize the efforts of dedicated members by nominating them for UCT's Volunteer of the Year Award (formerly the Fraternalist of the Year Award)!

Nominations are to be based on volunteer service provided during the past year only, and you may consider your

council's fiscal year as the past year. Focus areas for nominations are local council support, community service involvement and the ability to mobilize others.

Guidelines and nomination forms are available on the Members area of our website at uct.org under **Programs & Contests**, or by contacting the Public Relations Department at lfisher@uct.org or at 800.848.0123, Ext. 130.

The deadline for submissions is April 30. Nominations RECEIVED after this date will not be considered, so get started on your nomination today!

A note about membership plaques & pins

Just a reminder that effective Jan. 1 we are no longer automatically sending years of service award plaques and pins to local councils for members attaining 50, 60 and 75 years of membership. We are, however, still making plaques and pins available for councils to purchase on a monthly basis. Costs, which include shipping and handling, are:

50 year pins - \$27 ea.

50, 60 & 75 year plaques - \$13 ea.

50 year plaque & pin - \$37 ea. for both

Orders are placed on the 15th of every month. To place an order, contact the Fraternal Department at least TWO MONTHS in advance at amarshall@uct.org or at 800.848.0123, Ext. 126. Please note that an invoice will be included with the shipment of your merchandise.

2014 UCT convention service project to benefit Children's Hunger Alliance

Our 2014 annual UCT convention will take place July 6-9 at the Hyatt Regency Columbus in UCT's home city of Columbus, Ohio! Room rates are \$119 per night - good three days before and three days after the convention - and parking is \$12 per day. The cut-off date for reservations is June 12, and registration details will be coming your way soon!

This year's convention service project will benefit the [Children's Hunger Alliance](#). Based in Columbus, the Children's Hunger Alliance works to ensure all Ohio children are fed regular and nutritious meals and develop lifelong

healthy eating habits. We're calling on UCT members to help support this worthy cause's summer feeding program by donating the following needed items:

- Balls, chalk, hula hoops, jump ropes, etc.
- Bubbles, puzzles and coloring books
- Art supplies, including markers, crayons, color pencils, drawing books, etc.

If you don't plan to attend the convention, or prefer to ship your items ahead of time, feel free to send them to: UCT, Attn: Jessica Spring, 1801 Watermark Drive, Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43215 by no later than June 20. We want to acknowledge your donation, so make sure to include your name and council name and number with your items.

Questions? Contact Jessica Spring at jspring@uct.org or at 800.848.0123, Ext. 100.

Mike Hickey - a member you should know!

In 2014, every issue of UCT in Action will feature a UCT member we think you should get to know. Having just wrapped up our very successful 3rd annual UCT Winter Hockey Festival, we thought it appropriate - and important - for you to meet Mike Hickey, a member of Tri-City Council 2002 in Annapolis, Md., and president of the [American Special Hockey Association \(ASHA\)](#)!

A UCT member since 2012, Mike has been instrumental in helping the UCT-ASHA partnership to grow and was a driving force in establishing Council 2002, one of our first alternative councils. He finds UCT a perfect fit for him, as the core value of

making communities stronger through compassion toward others is one he believes in strongly.



Mike's volunteer commitment to ASHA and its special hockey players with developmental disabilities is incredible to witness. Watching him interact with

athletes over the years, it's clear that he loves them - and they love him right back! And his dedication to UCT is just as strong. We're lucky to have him on our team.

"I'm proud of the partnership with UCT and the connection with two great organizations," he said recently. "I look forward to many more years of working and building new relationships with others who share the common goal of improving lives and making a difference with both UCT and ASHA."

We look forward to it, too, Mike!



As part of UCT's ongoing support of the American Special Hockey Association (ASHA), we were pleased to present a check for \$20,000 to ASHA to give more kids the opportunity to learn and grow through playing hockey. The check was presented at the Opening Ceremonies of the 3rd annual UCT Winter Hockey Festival held recently in Laurel, Maryland. Pictured are, left, ASHA President Mike Hickey, UCT President Bob Kellogg, and UCT CEO Joe Hoffman.