



For Immediate Release
June 4, 2012

Media Contact:
Guadalupe Castillo, (916) 445-6229
Lupe.Castillo@CaliforniaVolunteers.ca.gov

Nominations Now Open for the 2012 Governor's Volunteering and Service Awards

*Honoring Outstanding California Volunteers, Organizations and Companies
That Make a Positive Impact in Local Communities Across the Golden State*

SACRAMENTO – Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. has opened nominations for the 2012 Governor's Volunteering and Service Awards. This annual CaliforniaVolunteers event inspires Californians as they learn of amazing feats of service taking place statewide.

"Everyday, Californians make the state stronger through countless hours of volunteerism. This spirit of service is especially important during these tough budget and economic times," said the Secretary of Service and Volunteering Karen Baker. "The Governor's Volunteering and Service Awards celebrates the trailblazing work of California's top volunteers, and we encourage Californians to nominate the best and brightest now."

Nominations will be accepted in the following categories:

- **California's Volunteer of the Year**
Honors an outstanding Californian whose volunteer service is exemplary and inspirational.
- **California's Nonprofit of the Year**
Honors an outstanding California nonprofit that has shown an extraordinary ability to leverage volunteers in service to their organization.
- **California's Business Volunteer Program of the Year**
Honors an outstanding California business with an innovative, high-impact volunteer program.
- **California's Small Business Volunteer Program of the Year**
Honors an outstanding California small business with an innovative, high-impact volunteer program.
- **California's Foundation of the Year**
Honors an outstanding California foundation that has made a successful investment in service and volunteer models in addressing community needs.
- **California's Faith-Based Organization of the Year**
Honors an outstanding faith-based organization that actively engages volunteers in addressing community needs.

- **California's Service Group of the Year**
Honors an outstanding California service group that has demonstrated an unwavering service commitment to the local community.
- **California's AmeriCorps Member of the Year**
Honors an outstanding California AmeriCorps member who has made a substantial impact to their community.

The deadline to submit a nomination for a Governor's Volunteering and Service Award is Friday, June 29, 2012. To make your nomination, please visit www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org/gvsa.

The Governor's Volunteering and Service Awards will be presented at an awards ceremony in Los Angeles on Tuesday, July 31, 2012.

The Governor's Volunteering and Service Awards ceremony is graciously sponsored by the Shinnyo-en Foundation.

About CaliforniaVolunteers

CaliforniaVolunteers is the state office that manages programs and initiatives to increase the number of Californians involved with service and volunteering, including the state AmeriCorps program and the California Disaster Corps. Through the innovative website, CaliforniaVolunteers.org, individuals and families can find more than 50,000 volunteer opportunities throughout the state, involving education, the environment, youth, and disaster preparedness. For more information, please visit www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org.

###