

USTA Awards and the Community Tennis Development Workshop

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Community Tennis Development Awards

The USTA Community Tennis Association of the Year Award and Eve Kraft Community Service Award are two prestigious awards given out at the annual USTA Community Tennis Development Workshop (CTDW). The application process for both awards now has a rolling deadline. Applications will be available all year and accepted all year. May 1 is the deadline for applications wanting to be considered for the current year's award. To submit an application, go to www.usta.com/cta and click on "CTA of the Year" or "Eve Kraft Award".



Community Tennis Association of the Year

The CTA of the Year Award honors a Community Tennis Association for outstanding service rendered in growing and developing the sport of tennis in its community.

- **Eligibility** – A USTA CTA defined as: "Any incorporated, geographically defined, not-for-profit, volunteer-based tennis organization that supports or provides programs, which promote and develop the growth of tennis." All CTAs nominated must be registered with the USTA and be a current USTA organization member.
- **Criteria** – Criteria include: CTA history, strong leadership, mission statement, strategic plan, organization structure, program offerings, volunteer recruitment, community relationships, fundraising, marketing and PR plans, staff positions, and special recognitions. See the application for more detail.
- **Selection Process** – Applications are sent to USTA sections, districts, and CTAs. The application must first go to the respective USTA section office. The USTA section office then selects one CTA to submit to USTA national. USTA national subsequently selects one CTA of the Year recipient.

Eve Kraft Community Service Award

The Eve F. Kraft Community Service Award is given to individuals who perpetuate Kraft's mission to bring the game of tennis to everyone who wants to play. Kraft was a tennis pioneer who touched people's lives both on and off of the tennis court. As a teacher, coach, author, USTA staff member, and volunteer, Kraft was a lifelong champion of recreational tennis in the United States until her death in 1999. She introduced thousands of young people to the game of tennis, particularly in disadvantaged communities.

■ **Eligibility** – The Eve Kraft USTA Community Service Award honors volunteer tennis leaders for significant contributions made to tennis development in their respective communities. Nominations must cover the following areas: description of tennis programs in the community, USTA programs implemented, depth of involvement, innovative programming ideas, ability to inspire and motivate others, impact of the program(s) on the community, involvement with other civic organizations, and association with the USTA section/district.

■ **Criteria** – Persons who have made significant contributions over a long period of time to tennis development in their communities. Candidates must have at least four consecutive seasons of actual "hands-on" field work in the community and must be nominated by two people familiar with their work.

■ **Selection Process** – Applications are sent by the USTA to section offices for distribution to leaders of the USTA NJTL programs, CTAs, and parks and recreation departments. Applications are returned to the USTA office before the USTA CTA Committee selects the recipients. The goal is to give the Eve Kraft Award to the most outstanding volunteer of the year.

The USTA also offers other National awards that CTAs and CTA leaders may be eligible to apply for:

■ **Member Organization of the Year Award** – Given to an Member organization that shows excellent service to the tennis community, service to its members through junior and adult programs, and historical perspective.

■ **NJTL of the Year Award** – Given to an NJTL Chapter with a high quality of on-court program, quality of management structure, interaction with the local parks and recreation department, support of the local business community, and ability to raise and administer funding.

■ **Junior Team Tennis National Organizer of the Year Award** – Given to an individual who positively influences children's lives and substantially makes an impact on his or her community

■ **Adaptive Tennis National Community Service Award** – Given to a program or program leader that has demonstrated continued excellence, dedication and service in tennis for an adaptive tennis community.

For a full listing of USTA Awards visit: www.usta.com/About-USTA/USTA-Awards/USTA%20Awards

Community Tennis Development Workshop (CTDW)

The USTA Community Tennis Development Workshop is the largest annual gathering of CTA/NJTTL leaders in the country. Attendees will enjoy top-notch sessions led by specialists in their field and networking opportunities with more than 700 grass-roots community tennis leaders from across the country. We encourage you to plan to send representative(s) from your local organization to the annual gathering.

Visit the USTA's online Learning Resource Center (<http://ustauniversityonline.learn.com/ctdw>), where you will find speaker presentations and handouts offered at the previous workshop. For more information on the CTDW, please visit www.usta.com/ctdw.

CTDW Scholarships

To increase the scope of the CTDW, scholarships are offered to outstanding community tennis leaders from across the country who otherwise could not afford to attend. Every CTA will be notified when we start the application process. For more information on the CTDW scholarship process please visit www.usta.com/cta.