

Bar Pro Bono Awards 2020

1. Each year Advocate facilitates awards for chambers, barristers and chambers’ staff members who are recognised for outstanding commitment to pro bono work.
2. The deadline for nominations is Sunday 27th September 2020.

**Rules of Entry**

1. All nominations require at least **two supporting letters/documents** (and no more than FOUR). Each document should be no more than 500 words.
2. Self-nominations are accepted (with two supporting letters as above).
3. The judges’ decision is binding and final.

**Award Categories:**

There are eight separate categories. Please only enter an individual or project in one category:

* Young Pro Bono Barrister of the Year,
* Junior Pro Bono Barrister of the Year
* Pro Bono QC of the Year
* International Pro Bono Barrister of the Year
* Pro Bono Chambers’ Professional of the Year
* Pro Bono Innovation of the Year
* Pro Bono Chambers of the Year
* Lifetime Achievement in Pro Bono

**Judging Criteria:**

Nominations should show how the nominee has met the criteria for the specific award.

Young Pro Bono Barrister of the Year (Presented at Bar Conference)

* Recognising the commitment to pro bono work demonstrated by young barristers in recent years, this award celebrates a barrister at the beginning of their career showing exceptional dedication to increasing opportunities for access to justice.
* Particular consideration will be given to those who have demonstrated a significant time commitment over the last year.
* Nominees for this award must be under 7 years’ post starting pupillage (those currently undertaking pupillage are also eligible) and should demonstrate that they are leading the pack in encouraging others to undertake pro bono work.

Junior Pro Bono Barrister of the Year

* This award highlights the outstanding pro bono work of a junior barrister practising in any area of law.
* They must have demonstrated significant commitment to the pro bono ethic over the last year, whether through the dedication of considerable time and expertise or through the undertaking of cases that have a substantial impact on the client, community or the access to justice sector.

Pro Bono QC of the Year

* This award is open to a silk of any year appointment who has played a significant role in the promotion of access to justice over the last year through pro bono work.
* Consideration will be given to those who can demonstrate the importance and impact of their work and who are a positive force in encouraging others to undertake pro bono cases.

International Pro Bono Barrister of the Year

* The winner of this award will be a barrister of any call who over the last year has undertaken significant pro bono work that is undertaken outside England and Wales.
* Leading by example, they will be an excellent advocate for access to justice across the globe.
* Consideration will be given to the time commitment demonstrated by the barrister as well as the extent of the impact of the pro bono work.

Pro Bono Chambers’ Professional of the Year

* This category recognises the crucial role played by chambers’ staff in championing access to justice through pro bono, including practice managers, clerks, those involved in business development, marketing and client care, and those managing chambers.
* The winner of this category will be a member of chambers staff who has demonstrably championed pro bono work over the last year and effectively channels pro bono resources to help those who require legal help receive assistance from legal professionals.

Pro Bono Innovation of the Year

* Nominees for this award are recognised for their innovation within the sector and their work on game-changing schemes, whether through the use of technology or in another field.
* Nominations can be made for individuals, teams or projects, but all must be distinguished by their creativity and their ability to inspire and to set new pro bono precedents within the legal profession.

Pro Bono Chambers of the Year

* This award celebrates the outstanding achievement and commitment to pro bono work demonstrated by a particular set of chambers.
* This achievement could be related to the amount or variety of pro bono work undertaken, or the number of practising barristers actively accepting pro bono cases within the chambers.
* Nominees must have gone above and beyond for access to justice, promoting and encouraging others to engage in pro bono work.

Lifetime Achievement in Pro Bono (Presented at Bar Conference)

* The Lifetime Achievement Award commends an individual’s exceptional achievement in terms of pro bono work.
* It recognises the long-term contribution made over the course of a career in addition to their work on specific pro bono cases.
* Nominees for this award will have demonstrated strong commitment to the pro bono ethic and through their work been a champion for access to justice for many years.

**Judging Panel:**

Lord Goldsmith QC; Chairman of the Judging Panel

Amanda Pinto QC; Chair of the Bar

Lucy Barbet; Chair, Institute of Barristers' Clerks

Julie Bishop; Director, Law Centres Network

Lord Burnett; the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales

Catherine Calder and Rachel Holmes; Co-Chairs, Legal Practice Management Association

Sarah Grainger; Editor, *Counsel* magazine

John van der Luit-Drummond, Editor, The Legal 500 UK Bar and Asia Pacific

Katherine Duncan; Chair, Young Barristers' Committee

Philip Bennetts QC and Ryan Richter; Chair, Employed Bar Committee

Leanne Target-Parker; Chair, Bar Council Pro Bono Committee

The Secret Barrister

The closing deadline for applications is: **Sunday 27th September 2020**

**What happens after the closing date?**

Our panel of judges, led by Lord Goldsmith QC, will then consider the applications.

Nominations received will be published in the awards brochure and on the Advocate website.

All nominees will be invited to an Awards ceremony taking place in Pro Bono Week in November 2020 at which winners of most categories will be announced. The ceremony will be online this year.

The winner of Young Pro Bono Barrister of the Year and the 2020 winner of Lifetime Achievement in Pro Bono will be presented with their awards at this year’s Annual Bar Conference, which will also be taking place online.

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| Bar Pro Bono Awards 2020 - Nomination Form | | |
| 1. **Details of nominee** | |
| **Name** | |  | |
| **Chambers / Work Place** | |  | |
| **Contact Telephone Number:** | |  | |
| **Email Address:** | |  | |
|  |  | |
| 1. **Your Details** |  | |
| **Your Name:**  **Relation to Nominee:** |  | |
| **Contact Address:** |  | |
| **Contact Telephone Number:** |  | |
| **Email Address:** |  | |
| **Date of Nomination:** |  | |

1. **Award Category nominated for?**

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1. **Please summarise why you feel that this individual deserves to win in this category in the Bar Pro Bono Awards 2020, noting how they meet the category criteria**

Some issues to consider include:

1. How has the nominee’s work directly affected the individuals involved, their community or group?
2. What is special about the nominee’s contribution or achievements to set him/her apart?

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1. **Please enclose with this completed application form at least two** (and no more than four) **letters of support from other individuals or organisations**

Each letter should be no more than 500 words.

Suggested documents include letters of thanks, recommendations from peers, colleagues or pro bono clients, or any other documents which show insight into the pro bono work of the nominee.

**I have enclosed two letters of support**

**Please tick here if you are happy for Advocate to use information provided in your nomination, regarding the activity and impact, in external communications**

**Please return the application form and letters by email to:** [awards@weareadvocate.org.uk](mailto:awards@advocate.org.uk)