



# Memo

**Date:** November 7, 2016

**To:** Pastors and Campus Ministers

**From:** Mr. Ashley Morris, Associate Director, Office of Intercultural and Ethnic Diversity

**Re:** 2017 MLK Jr. Celebration – Young Adult Award

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On the occasion of the Archdiocese of Atlanta's 2017 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration honoring the life and legacy of Dr. King, we pause to honor a young adult member of our Atlanta Catholic community who has demonstrated great accomplishments in the area of evangelization.

This member of our faithful Catholic community will be awarded the 2017 Msgr. Edward B. Branch Young Adult Award, which will be presented at our Young Adult Service Opportunity on **January 12, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.** at the **Lyke House: The Catholic Center at AUC.**

Please see the attached application packet to nominate a deserving young adult from your parish or campus ministry. Completed applications should be submitted to the **Office of Intercultural and Ethnic Diversity** no later than **Monday, December 5, 2016.** Submissions can be sent via email, postal or fax; with details listed in the attached application packet.

This is an ideal opportunity for your parish to nominate a young adult who excels and serves as a shining example of the energy and witness of our present and future Church within your parish or campus center. Remember, this award is not limited to parishioners of any particular ethnic group; everyone is eligible as long as they meet the criteria listed in the application packet.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. If you have any questions, please contact MLK Jr. Weekend Celebration Planning Committee member **Samantha Smith** at **(404) 920-7346** or via email at [ssmith@archatl.com](mailto:ssmith@archatl.com).



## **The Monsignor Edward B. Branch Young Adult Award**

### **History**

Msgr. Edward B. Branch devoted the majority of his priesthood to the spiritual development of young adult Catholics. He has taught numerous young adult Catholics over the years, instilling in them the importance of service and involvement in their faith.

Based on the example of Msgr. Edward B. Branch, the Office of Intercultural and Ethnic Diversity wishes to continue to acknowledge young adults throughout the Archdiocese of Atlanta who are involved in their Catholic community during the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration.

### **Nomination Criteria**

Nominations are now being accepted for laypersons and seminarians who are young adults (ages 18-40), and are of any ethnic background who are distinguished in the ministry of evangelization.

The nominee will be honored at the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Young Adult Service Opportunity on January 12, 2017 as the recipient of the Msgr. Edward B. Branch Young Adult Award.

There can only be **one** nomination per parish, mission or Catholic university center. Please use the following nomination criterion for your selection process. The selection process within your parish, mission or Catholic university center is left to the pastor's and the pastoral council's discretion. Award nominations must be received by **Monday, December 5, 2016**.

### **Please see the following criteria for nominations:**

- Must be a practicing Catholic
- Must have demonstrated consistent and continuous volunteer efforts, and have given his/her personal time and energies to further the goals and objectives of evangelism
- Must engage other youth and/or adults to become part of their Catholic community

*Please note that previous recipients are ineligible for this award and financial considerations should not play a significant role.*

### **Award Selection**

After December 5, 2016, all of the nominations received are reviewed by a selection committee, composed of a minimum of five objective Catholic parishioners from parishes and missions across the Archdiocese of Atlanta.

Without knowing the name or gender of the nominees, the selection committee reviews each of the nominees' information, and votes for who they believe best meets the criteria of the award. The nominee with the most votes is selected as the 2017 recipient of the Msgr. Edward B. Branch Young Adult Award.

### **Submitting Nominations**

Please submit nomination forms by completing one of the following options after selecting your nominee:

1. Email **Graciela Mulero** at [gmulero@archatl.com](mailto:gmulero@archatl.com) with Young Adult MLK Award in the subject line (attachments should be in Microsoft Word or .pdf format)
2. Fax to (404) 920-7581 to ATTN: Young Adult MLK Award
3. Mail to the Office of Intercultural and Ethnic Diversity, 2401 Lake Park Drive SE, Smyrna, GA 30080 (*All mailed nominations must be postmarked no later than December 5, 2016*)

# **The Monsignor Edward B. Branch Young Adult Award Nomination Form**

## **Nominating Parish, Mission or Catholic University Center**

Name of Parish, Mission or Catholic University Center	
Mailing Address	
Contact Person	
Phone Number and Email	

## **Nominee Information**

Name of Nominee	
Mailing Address	
Phone Number and Email	

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Pastor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Application

Please return all completed nomination forms to:

**The Office of Intercultural and Ethnic Diversity**

Attention: Young Adult MLK Award

2401 Lake Park Drive, SE

Smyrna, GA 30080

<p>Please list the programs and ministries the nominee has been involved with in your Catholic community.</p>	
<p>How long has your nominee been involved in your Catholic community?</p>	
<p>Why are you choosing this person to receive this award?</p>	

*Please use the back of the sheet or an additional page to complete this section of the nomination form. More information is better than less.*