



Northeastern University

College of Arts, Media and Design

Department of Communication Studies

THE MICHAEL WOODNICK QUALITY OF LIFE AWARD

ABOUT THE AWARD

The Michael Woodnick Quality of Life Award honors a senior Communication Studies major (including combined majors) who shows a clear understanding of how authentic communication informs and influences their relationships. The award is based on the strength of an applicant's academic performance, extracurricular and/or work related activities, and a personal essay which describes a relationship(s) where a specific outcome was significantly influenced based on the knowledge gained from their Communication Studies education. In recent years, the most compelling essays have integrated education, work experience, family and friends, and health.

ELIGIBILITY

All senior Communication and/or Media Studies majors are eligible to apply. To be considered, applicants should submit electronic versions of the following items to a.chin@northeastern.edu:

1. An *unofficial* transcript (available through myNortheastern).
2. A resume.
3. One or more letters of recommendation from individuals who can speak to the applicant's scholarship and/or personal display of authenticity in their communication.
4. A 500 to 750 word reflective essay that answers this question: "*During your Northeastern University experience, what have you learned about authentic communication and how it impacts your personal quality of life, your relationship with others, and your involvement in community?*"

The Woodnick Award Committee will base their decision on academic achievement, the recommendations, and the reflective essay. Incomplete and/or late applications will not be considered.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO A.CHIN@NORTHEASTERN.EDU

BY 4:30 P.M. ON MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2023



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ABOUT PROFESSOR WOODNICK

Michael Woodnick devoted forty-five years to helping his students come face to face with their authentic selves; walking them through the maze of life and helping them do the work of sifting out what really matters. He joined Northeastern University in 1964 as one of the founding members of the Speech Communication track in the Department of Drama, Music and Speech, teaching courses in Business & Professional Speaking, Voice and Articulation and Mass Media. Beginning in the 1970s, Professor Woodnick's interests began to focus on Interpersonal Communication, which became his major work for the rest of his tenure at Northeastern, including the addition of courses in Communication and the Quality of Life and Authentic Communication. In 1980, Communication Studies became a department of its own and Professor Woodnick served as its first Chair; soon after, he was the recipient of one of the University's first Excellence in Teaching Awards. In 2000, he was appointed the University's first Director of Spiritual Life, a position he held for three years until his return to the Communication Studies department from which he retired in 2009.

Professor Woodnick has been described as a man who has an "intuitive sense of engagement" with each student, reflecting his innate capacity to "draw out the reticent ones, encourage the risk takers and support the ones who needed a little extra understanding." Whether in his role as Professor, Department Chair, or Director of Spiritual Life, he always created a "warm, comfortable, and open environment" where students felt respected and deeply cared for. One of the hallmarks of his tenure at Northeastern was his constant effort to be authentic with himself, his students and all who came into his life.

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QUALITY OF LIFE AWARD**

APPLICATION

Name:

Campus Address:

E-mail Address:

Phone Number:

Expected Graduation Date:

Grade Point Average:

Extracurricular Activities:

Application Checklist

- Unofficial transcript (available through myNortheastern)
- Resume
- Two letters of recommendation (one academic and one non-academic)
- Reflective essay

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