



National School Boards Association  
Council of Urban Boards of Education  
***2008 Benjamin Elijah Mays Lifetime Achievement Award***

*An award recognizing individuals who have made outstanding contributions to urban school board service*

The *2008 Benjamin Elijah Mays Lifetime Achievement Award* is awarded by the National School Boards Association's (NSBA) Council of Urban Boards of Education (CUBE). The award is given to an individual who, for the span of his/her lifetime, has demonstrated a long-standing commitment to representing the educational needs of urban schoolchildren through his/her service as a local school board member.

**Who was Benjamin Elijah Mays?**

Dr. Benjamin Elijah Mays is remembered for his outstanding leadership and service as a scholar, teacher, minister, mentor, author and civil rights activist. **Benjamin Mays became a member of the Atlanta Board of Education in 1969 and served as its president from 1970-1981 where he tirelessly worked to provide equal educational opportunities for children.** Dr. Mays died on March 28, 1984.

**Criteria**

The award is open to any current or former CUBE school board member (from a school district in good standing with its state school boards association and CUBE) who, through his/her life's endeavors, has demonstrated a significant and lasting contribution towards representing the educational needs of urban schoolchildren through local school board service. Current members of the CUBE Steering Committee are not eligible for nomination. Former steering committee members may be nominated if they have not served on the committee for at least three years prior.

**Nomination Process**

Any CUBE school board member who meets the criteria may be nominated. Nominators may nominate more than one person; however a completed application must accompany each nomination. Nominators are responsible for ensuring that all necessary documentation is forwarded with the application. Self-nominations are discouraged.

## **Application Process**

Nominations must be received by the Committee Chair **no later than August 18, 2008** at:

*2008 Benjamin Mays Lifetime Achievement Award Committee Chair*  
Council of Urban Boards of Education  
National School Boards Association  
1680 Duke Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
[cube@nsba.org](mailto:cube@nsba.org) – e-mail

**The nomination must include:**

- **a completed application for each nomination;**
- **a nomination letter clearly indicating how the nominee has made a notable impact in his/her urban school board service (no more than 2 pages);**
- **the nominee's curriculum vitae;**
- **three letters of support; and**
- **supporting documentation, including publication citations and any other notable, relevant achievements of the nominee.**

The quality of the nomination itself has a powerful effect on the selection of the successful recipient. It is important that nominators comply with the application requirements to the best of their ability, to a maximum of 10 pages, including letters of support. The application packet should articulate a strong and coherent argument as to why the nominee merits this award, and demonstrate the tangible and persistent contributions of the nominee.

The winner will be notified by September 1, 2008, and the award presented at CUBE's Annual Conference in Las Vegas, NV, on September 27, 2008.

## **Selection Process**

The *2008 Benjamin Elijah Mays Lifetime Achievement Award* Committee is comprised of five school board members selected from CUBE member districts in good standing and chaired by a member of the CUBE Steering Committee, designated by the CUBE chair. The Committee will select the award recipient by reviewing materials submitted for each nominee and determining the overall impact of his/her contributions towards representing the educational needs of urban schoolchildren through his/her service as a local school board member.

**Council of Urban Boards of Education**  
**2008 Benjamin Mays Lifetime Achievement Award Application**  
*Submission deadline is August 18, 2008*



**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**To:** *2008 Benjamin Mays Lifetime Achievement Award Committee Chair*  
Attention: Katrina Kelley

**Subject:** *2008 Benjamin Mays Lifetime Achievement Award Nomination*

Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I nominate the following current or former school board member for the Council of Urban Boards of Education's (CUBE) *2008 Benjamin Mays Lifetime Achievement Award*. My nominee is a school board member from a school district in good standing with its state school boards association and CUBE.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

School District: \_\_\_\_\_

District Address: \_\_\_\_\_

District Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

District Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

How long has the nominee served on his/her board? \_\_\_\_\_

**The nomination must include:**

- a completed application for each nomination;
- a nomination letter clearly indicating how the nominee has made a notable impact in his/her urban school board service (no more than 2 pages);
- the nominee's curriculum vitae;
- three letters of support; and
- supporting documentation, including publication citations and any other notable, relevant achievements of the nominee.

**Nominations must be received by the Committee Chair no later than August 18, 2008. Mail, e-mail or fax this completed application form along with a nomination letter, the nominee's curriculum vitae, three letters of support, and any supportive documentation to:**

**2008 Benjamin Mays Lifetime Achievement Award Committee Chair  
Council of Urban Boards of Education  
National School Boards Association  
1680 Duke Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
[cube@nsba.org](mailto:cube@nsba.org) – e-mail  
703-549-6719 -- fax**

If you have any questions please contact:  
Katrina Kelley, Director  
Council of Urban Boards of Education  
Phone: 703-838-6742  
[kkelley@nsba.org](mailto:kkelley@nsba.org) – e-mail



**COUNCIL OF URBAN BOARDS OF EDUCATION**  
SERVING AMERICA'S URBAN PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS