**Indian Nurses Association of Illinois-Nurses Week Awards**

**Announcing the great opportunity for nurses to apply for three special awards for their leadership and student scholarship awards that will be presented at the INAI Nurses week celebration 2015**

1. **Foster Award - Best Clinical Nurse**

The nominee should be an outstanding nurse who has shown his/her nursing excellence in the following criteria:

* Community Service (community involvement)
* Professional Development (i.e. doing advanced education and certifications)
* Patient Care (i.e. appreciation from a patient)
* Promoting the Image of Nursing (involvement in any nursing role)
1. **Sharp Award-Best Advance Practice Nurse**

The nominee should be an outstanding APN who has shown his/her Advance Practice Nursing excellence in the following criteria:

* Community Service (community involvement)
* Professional Development (advanced education and certifications)
* Practice (i.e. prevention of hospitalizations and infections in their patients)
* Promoting the Image of Nursing (involvement in any advanced role)
1. **Dynamite Award-The most experienced nurse(Retired Nurses count too)**

The nominee should be the most experienced nurse in United States (can count only the years worked in USA). Please write a one page reflection on your accomplishments, achievements, and contributions to the nursing profession.

 ***For the award 1, 2 and 3, the nomination package should include:***

* Any professional who knows the candidate (may be an INAI member or non-member) may submit a nomination of 200 words detailing the reasons for nominating this candidate (candidate must be an INAI member).
* Evidence of the nominee’s outstanding contributions to the society or patients.
* Completed attached forms for the corresponding award.

 **4**. **Outstanding Student Nurse Award**

Indian Nurses Association of Illinois (**INAI**) will recognize three student nurses (LPN, Associate Degree, and BSN) who have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement and has made a significant contribution to their profession or to the community.

* Student must be in the program full-time during the year of nomination
* Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and above
* Significant contribution to the student’s chosen profession
* Must not be currently working as licensed nursing professional

 ***Nomination packet must include:***

* Award Criteria checklist (see attachment below)
* Nomination letter from faculty or professional member preferable (student can nominate themselves providing all supporting documents)
* Reflective statement from the student (no more than 2 pages) that addresses their work in the major, services, and their future goals.
* Statement of proof that you are a fulltime student

Nominations for these awards are now open and are being accepted through **April 15, 2015.** Award winners will be notified by **April 22nd**and should plan to be present at the INAI Nurses week celebration**, May 2, 2015** to accept their awards.

Email: inainurses@yahoo.com

Thank you,

INAI President & Education Committee