



## Self-Advocate Award

Stephen Shore once defined self-advocacy as “knowing when and how to approach others to negotiate desired goals, build mutual understanding and trust, and achieve fulfillment and productivity. . . [it] often involves an amount of disclosure about oneself to reach the goal of better mutual understanding.”

**We seek nominations for the 2018 Self-Advocate Award.** With the above definition of self-advocacy in mind, the Self Advocate Award winner displays the following in their advocacy role:

**Commitment** -Demonstrating the ability to advocate for an improvement that benefits not only the self, but the autism community-at-large.

**Community** -Practicing advocacy that not only brings awareness to what autism is, but also introduces the concept of acceptance and the belief in autonomy.

**Inspiration** -Displaying positive interactions with a variety of individuals and groups associated with autism. Is able to influence said groups to advocate for change that continues to support the ideas of awareness, acceptance, and autonomy for individuals on the spectrum.

**Vision** -By Foreseeing opportunities to help through the efforts of self-advocacy and advocacy.

**Initiative** -By Learning about the problems within the autism community, then takes the steps necessary utilizing resources and information, including personal stories and experiences, that allow for advocacy to occur that improves the lives of individuals on the autism spectrum.

### Your submission should:

- **Be postmarked by March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018;**
- **Include your contact information so we can get in touch with you if the nominee is chosen; and**
- be submitted:
  - **via email** to [autismsociety@autismnebraska.org](mailto:autismsociety@autismnebraska.org)
  - **or by mail to:**

Autism Society of Nebraska  
PO Box 83559  
Lincoln, NE 68501-3559

The award will be presented during the evening event at the 2018 NE ASD Network State Conference on Thursday April 19th, 2018 at the Embassy Suites in LaVista, Nebraska. Please contact us with any questions!