



LEVEL-UP AWARDS

THE PILLARS

Just as the Arch could not stand without its pillars, our grand goal cannot be achieved without three core concepts creating a strong foundation for success. Our Pillars are important principles that inform the work of every staff member, alumni leader, and volunteer.

Leadership — *We are all leaders. Our careers allow us to effect positive change and encourage Bulldogs around the world to join us. We recognize this opportunity and responsibility, and we work hard every day to be worthy of it.*

Collaboration — *Leveraging our individual strengths for a collective effort produces far greater results than working alone. We are all one UGA, so we will work as one UGA – our success depends on it.*

Impact — *What we do matters. Our work can get a student into their dream school, it can fuel discoveries that save lives, it can empower entire communities. The ability to create a better future for Georgia, for generations, is at the heart of all we do.*

THE STEPS

The steps leading to the Arch turn it from a symbol into a milestone and tradition. It takes a small action to traverse each step, but every one brings you closer to the goal. Our Steps are the practices that inform the decisions we make from day to day – the actions that bring our Pillars to life and, eventually, takes us across the threshold of our goal.

- *We lend a helping hand whenever we can.*
- *We manage the resources of the University with special care and concern*
- *We do what we say we are going to do.*
- *We maintain a positive and professional attitude.*
- *We face situations head on and with a solution-oriented mindset.*
- *We seek to learn and grow in our roles.*
- *We take time to celebrate with one another.*
- *We continually assess the effectiveness of our work to make improvements.*
- *We treat each other with respect and dignity in all our dealings.*
- *We provide clear expectations and the “why” for our work.*

Level-Up Award Criteria

In Fall 2024, VP Jill Walton introduced DARing to Level Up, a visionary call to action aimed at building on our past successes and striving for more extraordinary achievements. Inspired by the iconic UGA Arch, DARing to Level Up is anchored in three core “pillars” and actionable “steps.” The Level Up Award honors staff members who have exemplified an unwavering dedication to these pillars and steps, showcasing their commitment to leadership, collaboration, and impact.

Awards Process

Nominations

1. Any DAR employee may submit nominations in recognition of a DAR colleague who has been employed for a minimum of six months in Development and Alumni Relations, including schools, colleges, and units.
2. Nominations should be no more than 300 words and outline the nominee's unwavering commitment to leadership or collaboration, or impact from July 1, 2024– February 5, 2025. All nominations should be submitted via the Level Up Award nomination form on Microsoft Forms.
3. The deadline to nominate an individual is Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at 11:59 pm. Only nominations submitted through the Level Up Award nomination form will be accepted.

Recognition Committee

1. The selection process will be handled by a selection committee comprising representatives from DAR teams, including the schools, colleges, and units.
2. The Committee will conduct the selection process in a confidential manner to protect its integrity.
3. The nominator must identify the specific pillar for which the nominee will be assessed. Each nomination will be evaluated on leadership or collaboration, or impact. Up to 2 awards per pillar will be awarded.