



2024 International ACAC Annual Awards

Rising Star Award

Gerald Malik Ndungu
Senior College Counselor - Special Programming
Bridge2Rwanda

This award recognizes a new member who is striving to make a difference within International ACAC. NACAC's Rising Star Award honors individuals and programs that exemplify excellence and dedication to serving the needs of students in the transition from high school to college. The International ACAC Rising Star Award was established in 2015 to honor those deserving of international recognition. They must be new members who are striving to make a difference within our Association through their work in committees and/or in their communities. Individuals receiving a Rising Star Award nomination must be professional members of International ACAC for no more than five years.

Members who nominated Gerald for the Rising Star Award shared these comments:

- Gerald is a world-class college counselor and educator.
- I am impressed by his organizational and problem-solving skills, excellent writing and project management skills, and an undeniable hunger to educate the African child so as to bridge the hampering socioeconomic gaps that have kept many promising Africans engulfed by the shackles of poverty.
- It has been his leadership skills that have set him apart. Words would not do any justice to the kind of leader that Gerald has turned into.
- He empowers his team, sets a vision for them to follow, and then creates a fertile ground for creativity and ideas to take place. No wonder his results have been outstanding!
- I would be remiss if I didn't talk about Gerald's passion for working with refugee students, internally displaced students, or underprivileged students. Such students are so dear to Gerald's heart. He scours all of the country for top students who have had to overcome overwhelming odds to be where they are, many of whom turn out to be refugees.
- Even with the tremendous results and continuous growth that Gerald has been able to achieve so far, it is exciting to know that Gerald is only getting started.

International ACAC is proud to award Gerald the Rising Star Award!