

# AWARDS AND *Recognition* ♦ 2017 ♦

RECOGNIZING THE PROFESSIONALS WHO IMPROVE OUR QUALITY OF LIFE

## **INDIVIDUAL AWARDS**

Lifetime Achievement  
Distinguished Service  
Outstanding Service  
Young Professional  
Robert W. Miner "Good Guy"  
Frances Wallach "Good Gal"  
ABCD Award  
Distinguished Citizen  
Elected Official of the Year  
Memorial Hall of Fame  
Therapeutic Recreation

## **AGENCY AWARDS**

Special Event  
Program of Merit  
Multimedia  
The Excellence in Landscape Design  
The Exceptional Facility Design  
The Exceptional Park Design  
Inclusion Program of Excellence

## **INDIVIDUAL/AGENCY AWARDS**

Environmental Leadership  
Outstanding Corporate Partnership



**PROMOTING HEALTHIER, SAFER AND GREENER COMMUNITIES**

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# Selection of Winners

Each year the New York State Recreation and Park Society presents a series of awards that have become a coveted honor for the people and organizations singled out for their contributions to parks and recreation. These awards are presented at the Annual Awards Presentation, held each year during the Annual Conference & Business Expo. Only current members of NYSRPS are eligible to nominate qualified candidates for these awards. The nomination form must be clearly and completely filled out and postmarked by the deadline indicated. Supplemental material such as videos, pictures, news releases, flyers, etc. will be accepted, but must be packaged together with the completed nomination form. You may make copies of the nomination form as needed.

## NOMINATION PROCEDURE

- NYSRPS Regional Partner and Affiliate award winner nominations (selected via local award luncheons) must be submitted by the Regional Partner/Affiliate Chairperson. These nominations must be submitted together, in one package, and each entry must be accompanied by the official nomination form with award category indicated.
- It is required that all nominations include photo(s) or electronic artwork of the individual, organization, publication, facility or program for presentation purposes. This may be done on a CD, flash drive or through the drop box. Please submit six (6) copies of the nomination form and all supporting documents (letters, narratives, DVDs, pictures, CDs, original publications, etc.). Nominations with less than six copies will be disqualified.
- If required, current NYSRPS membership will be verified. Nominations submitted by non-members will be disqualified.
- Nominees must be in the appropriate category.
- All nominations and supplemental materials should be sent to the NYSRPS Awards and Recognition Chairperson at the address listed on the nomination form.
- The NYSRPS Awards Committee will be solely responsible for the review, evaluation, and selection of award winners.
- Nominators will be informed in writing of the decision of the Awards Committee prior to the Annual Conference.
- Decision of the committee will be final.
- All award entries will remain the property of the NYSRPS.

# Past winners of our highest honors

### Distinguished Service

1987 - Joseph M. Caverly, Westchester County Parks  
1988 - Robin Kunstler, Patricia Urquhart, & Professor Lestor Rhoads  
1989 - John P. Silsby, Town of Tonawanda  
1990 - Joseph P. Davidson, City of New York  
1991 - Patricia Urquhart, Town of Manlius  
1992 - Uluss (Gus) Thompson, NYS Parks & Recreation  
1993 - Jim Donahue, Town of Perinton  
1994 - Salvatore Cresenzi Village of Rye Brook  
1995 - Edward Wankel, New York State Department of Parks & Recreation  
1996 - Gary Lane, Town of Tonawanda  
1997 - Bryon Bissonette, City of Plattsburgh  
1998 - Judith A. Gordon, Suffolk County Department of Parks  
1999 - Mr. Daniel Drake, Town of Southport  
2000 - Mr. Tom Kehoskie, Town of Camillus Park and Recreation  
2001 - Mr. Michael Cooper, Town of Penfield  
2002 - Mr. Paul Blake, Sales Representative, Mid-Atlantic Products  
2003 - Dr. Arthur Mittelstaed, Jr., Recreation Safety Institute  
2004 - Justin Pokines, Town of Sullivan  
2005 - Frank Allkofer, Monroe County Parks  
2006 - William Zimmermann, City of New Rochelle  
2007 - Richard Rose, Town of Orangetown  
2008 - Joseph A. Stout, Westchester County PRC  
2009 - Charles Connington, Clarkstown Parks & Recreation  
2010 - Sally Rogol, City of Rye  
2011 - Ann Smiley, Town of Lysander  
2012 - Jack Voelker, Chautauqua Institution  
2013 - Jeff Myers, Town of Perinton  
2014 - N/A  
2015 - N/A  
2016 - Linanne Conroy, Town of Penfield

### Outstanding Service

1987 - Village & Town of Mt. Kisco, NY  
1988 - Ontario Beach Program Committee Inc. of Rochester, NY  
1989 - Rosaline Preudhomme  
1990 - Bill Diamond, Diamond Studios & Associates, Inc.  
1991 - Daryl Willenbrink  
1992 - Jeanie T. Piatt, Project Playground Citizens Group, Town of Newburgh  
1993 - E. William Miller, Town of Tonawanda Parks & Rec Committee  
1994 - Jean Marshall, Town of Gates  
1995 - Cheektowaga YES Program  
1996 - Genesee Region Telephone Pioneers  
1997 - Onondaga Park Association  
1998 - Bernadette Castro  
1999 - Vergie Mingo, Western New York Children's Psychiatric Center  
2000 - William Murray, NYSOPRHP - Central Region  
2001 - Jody Rogers, Town of Cicero  
2002 - James Smiley, Oswego County Catholic Charities  
2003 - Tom White, City of Syracuse  
2004 - Bonnie Brown, City of Syracuse Aquatics Director  
2005 - Peggy Kenyon, Town of Manlius  
2006 - Jim Raulli, City of Manlius  
2007 - Elaine Apfelbaum, Town of Clarkstown  
2008 - Martin Denecke, Town of Hamburg  
2009 - Jeff Myers, Town of Perinton  
2010 - Bob Ellis, Onondaga County Parks  
2011 - Patrick Driscoll, City of Syracuse  
2012 - Wayne Morris, Town of Clay  
2013 - Kristine Zingaro, Town of Manlius  
2014 - Karen Keast, Town of DeWitt  
2015 - Julie LaFave, Town of Cicero  
2016 - Mary Beth Roach, City of Syracuse

## INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

### LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This special award is to recognize a person who live(d) or work(ed) in the State of New York and has achieved prominence for his/her excellence in achieving outstanding and lasting contributions to the advancement of recreation and parks on the local and/or state levels. These contributions should be of long term impact upon the recreation and park movement. A minimum of 20 years in the field of Recreation and Parks is required. Nominee is to be a resident of/or work in the State of New York at the time of prominence.

### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

This is the most prestigious award that the NYSRPS offers. To receive the Distinguished Service Award, the nominee shall be an individual who has made significant contributions, over a period of 10 years or more, to NYSRPS and their local district/affiliate.

### OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

To receive the Outstanding Service Award, the nominee shall be a professional in the field and/or an organization which, over a period of at least five years, made outstanding contributions to enrich the lives of individuals or groups of individuals in neighborhoods, communities, or the State of New York, through recreation, parks, and conservation.

### YOUNG PROFESSIONAL AWARD

The Young Professional Award is presented to a current parks and recreation professional who exhibits the attributes of an emerging leader, as displayed through their initiative, innovation, and contributions to the park and recreation field. Nominees should possess a record of career advancement, be engaged in professional and/or community organizations, and demonstrate outstanding service to their agency. Must be a NYSRPS member and have less than five years experience in the field of parks and recreation in their current position.

### DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN

The Distinguished Citizen Award recognizes a citizen, community park board member, or volunteer who has demonstrated exceptional efforts towards enhancing and supporting parks and recreation in their community and/or New York State. Nominees may be recognized for a record of cumulative service or for their endeavors related to a single project or activity of significance.

### ELECTED OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

The Elected Official of the Year Award will be presented to an individual who provides exemplary support to parks and recreation. This individual has made significant contributions to the parks and recreation field through active participation, advocacy or through policy and legislation. This individual can be at the local, county, regional, state or federal level.

### ROBERT W. MINER 'GOOD GUY' and FRANCES WALLACH 'GOOD GAL'

A member of any section of NYSRPS; an individual who is actively involved in the Society and in activities related to the field of leisure services; an individual who has unselfishly contributed time, expertise, and effort to further the principles and goals of the field of leisure services.

### THERAPEUTIC RECREATION

Nominee must be a member of NYSRPS or NYSTRA with a minimum of 5 years in the field. Nominee is deserving of recognition for dedication and commitment in the field of therapeutic recreation or in helping to provide programs for people with disabilities.

### ABCD Award

The individual should have gone "Above and Beyond the Call of Duty" by having made an outstanding contribution to the field of public recreation and parks, significant enough to have had a stimulating effect on recreation at a town, city, state or national level. This award is open to volunteers and part-time/seasonal, park or secretarial staff. This award is not intended for full time Park and Recreation Professionals. Membership in NYSRPS not required.

## AGENCY AWARDS

### EXCELLENCE IN LANDSCAPE DESIGN

The Excellence in Landscape Design Award projects include garden design, landscape art, sculptures and pathways, and improvements on landscape projects and maintenance.

### EXCEPTIONAL FACILITY DESIGN

The Exceptional Facility Design Award projects include indoor pools and indoor sports complexes, community centers, information centers, gymnasiums, picnic shelters, restrooms, lighting, water sewer systems and parking lots, or other amenities.

### EXCEPTIONAL PARK DESIGN

The Exceptional Park Design Award is for a project that contains facility and landscape components. Examples would be sports fields, playgrounds, splash pads, trails and linear parks, skate parks, dog parks, and outdoor aquatic facilities.

### PROGRAM OF MERIT

This award will be given to a department that has developed an outstanding ongoing program that is innovative, creative and unique in nature or that demonstrates a new twist on an old theme while still being consistent with current trends. This program must enrich a group, community, or individual and is characterized as an organized recreation or leisure activity that is offered either on a daily, weekly or seasonal basis. The program must be in existence for a minimum of two (2) years.

### INCLUSION PROGRAM OF EXCELLENCE

The Inclusion Program of Excellence Award praises an organization or agency for their achievements pertaining to a program or project that increases awareness and benefits of parks and recreation for everyone. This award highlights and acknowledges the organization's effort and determination to provide inclusive opportunities and programming to their community.

### SPECIAL EVENT AWARD

To receive the Special Event Award, the nominated event shall be a specific, one-time or annual event held between February 26, 2016 and February 24, 2017 that made outstanding contributions to enrich the lives of individuals or groups in neighborhoods or communities in recreation, parks, or conservation.

### MULTIMEDIA

Presented to the agency that has most effectively created awareness and gained exposure through Video/Audio/Electronic coverage including website, social media, special videos, etc.

## INDIVIDUAL/AGENCY AWARDS

### ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP

This award recognizes a park and recreation professional or agency who has made an outstanding effort during the last one to five years to sustain and improve the environment and/or reduce the environmental impact made by the agency.

### OUTSTANDING CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP

The Outstanding Corporate Partnership Award recognizes a vendor, company, or individual who has significantly contributed to the field of parks and recreation and developed a strong partnership with NYSRPS, a local organization or agency. This vendor, company, or individual has shown great leadership and support to the parks and recreation field by providing equipment, volunteer time, in-kind services or other contributions to a project or program that benefits the community and demonstrates the importance of parks and recreation.

# 2017 Award Nomination Form

Photocopy this form for multiple nominations. Deadline is February 24, 2017. Nominations not postmarked by the deadline will be disqualified.

## NOMINEE INFORMATION:

Nominee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## NOMINATED FOR THE FOLLOWING AWARD: (Please check):

### INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

- Lifetime Achievement
- Distinguished Service
- Outstanding Service
- Young Professional
- Robert W. Miner "Good Guy"
- Frances Wallach "Good Gal"
- ABCD Award
- Distinguished Citizen
- Elected Official of the Year
- Therapeutic Recreation

### AGENCY AWARDS

- Special Event
- Program of Merit
- Multimedia
- The Excellence in Landscape Design
- The Exceptional Facility Design
- The Exceptional Park Design
- Inclusion Program of Excellence

### INDIVIDUAL/AGENCY AWARDS

- Environmental Leadership
- Outstanding Corporate Partnership

## REASON FOR NOMINATING:

Please describe how the nominee meets or exceeds the criteria. If necessary, attach a separate sheet with specific accomplishments, etc. Include letters of recommendation and other supporting documentation. Please submit 6 copies of the nomination form and all supporting documents (letters, narratives, DVDs, pictures, original publications, etc.)

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Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please submit nomination by February 24, 2017 to:**

Charry Lawson

Town of Onondaga Parks & Recreation

4834 Velasko Road, Syracuse, NY 13215

For questions contact Charry at (315) 469-3464 or [charry2@juno.com](mailto:charry2@juno.com)

# Memorial Hall of Fame Nomination Form

The purpose of this special award is to recognize posthumously persons who lived or worked in the State of New York and have achieved prominence for their excellence in achieving outstanding and lasting contributions to the advancement of recreation and parks on the local, state, and/or national levels. Through this medium, we will pay tribute to these individuals so they may serve as shining examples and symbols for future generations.

## CRITERIA FOR THE MEMORIAL HALL OF FAME NOMINEES IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Nominees will be considered for their contributions to the recreation and park field on the local, state, and/or national levels. These contributions should be of long term impact upon the recreation and park movement.
2. Nominees are to be residents of/or worked in the State of New York at the time of prominence.
3. No nominee will be considered until at least one year following their death. This is a posthumous honor.

The name, biography and photo of the honoree will be added to the Memorial Hall of Fame and displayed at the 2017 Annual Conference and all subsequent conferences and exhibitions.

## NOMINEE INFORMATION:

Nominee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Kin, if known: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number of Kin, if known: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Kin, if known: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Death: \_\_\_\_\_

## BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION OF NOMINEE:

On a separate sheet, please provide nominee's background as to where he or she was born, lived, and/ or worked at the time when in New York, plus high school or college attended, etc. Also, please include a photo of the nominee.

## REASON FOR NOMINATING:

On a separate sheet of paper, please furnish the Committee sufficient information to properly judge how your nominee has made an outstanding and lasting contribution to the advancement of the recreation and park movement on the local, state, and/or national levels.

Nominated By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit nomination by February 24, 2017 to:

Charry Lawson

Town of Onondaga Parks & Recreation

4834 Velasko Road, Syracuse, NY 13215

For questions contact Charry at (315) 469-3464 or [charry2@juno.com](mailto:charry2@juno.com)