

IRPA AWARD CRITERIA

DR. LEON GREEN FELLOWSHIP AWARD

Qualifications:

- The candidate must be a member of IRPA
- Minimum of 15 years experience in the field of parks and recreation, with 5 years of this experience in the State of Idaho
- The contributions should be primarily through the Idaho Parks and Recreation Association to the field of parks and/or recreation
- Some of the following may be considered:
 - An office holder in IRPA
 - Chairman of a committee in the Association
 - Member of a committee in a national park and/or recreation organization
 - Outstanding leadership in a special field connected with parks and/or recreation
 - Committee work over a two-year period with local, state, or national organization, either in IRPA or related to IRPA
 - Fifteen or more presentations to recreation groups, conventions, assemblies, luncheon meetings, radio presentations, and such other gatherings, held in the promotion of parks and/or recreation
 - Contributing articles for handbooks, newspapers, and magazines in the interest of parks and/or recreation
 - Conducting research that helps to promote the profession
 - Author of three or more articles accepted and published by magazines of state or national scope
 - Author or co-author of one or more books on parks and/or recreation
 - Longstanding service to IRPA

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS FOR ALL CATEGORIES

- Recreation
- Parks, Trails or Conservation
- Facilities

Qualifications:

- Membership in IRPA/NRPA
- Minimum 10 years of experience in the field
- Continuous contributions to the field at the local, state, regional or national level. (Not for a single contribution)
- The candidate must have made recurring and valuable contributions to the parks and recreation field in one or more of the following areas:
 - Leadership - Active and exceptional participation as an officer or committee member of IRPA, NRPA, Pacific Northwest Regional Council, or other organization closely related to the parks, recreation and conservation field
 - Research - Initiation or implementation of studies or analyses which advance new ideas, techniques or procedures stimulating the profession or extending its philosophy or methods of practice
 - Job Performance - Consistently outstanding performance of all aspects of assigned responsibilities and professional endeavors

- Education - Implementation of training programs or development of training methods or materials for professional personnel which resulted in high professional standards or achieved exceptional results
 - Public Relations - outstanding contributions in furthering the aims and public image of effective parks, recreation and conservation and the profession through public speeches; participation on forum or panel groups; appearance before radio or television audiences; writing articles, manuals or books on the parks, recreation and conservation discipline; or in any other manner adding to the prestige of the profession and building its acceptance by the public
 - Other Areas - exceptional professional service of any kind that has not been expressed above
- The determining factors for selection will be the degree of proficiency attained by the nominee and the level of achievement or contribution made by the nominee

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Qualifications:

- Membership in IRPA/NRPA
- 35 years of age or less as of December 31st of the nominating year
- Minimum 5 years experience as a leader, instructor, supervisor, administrator, consultant, or a combination of these in the field of parks and recreation
- Service:
 - Distinctive leadership in promotion, organization, and development of a “pioneer-type” activity in parks and recreation
 - Contributions to the profession through the IRPA/NRPA, its branches and affiliates
 - Outstanding service to the profession through the allied fields of arts, crafts, sports, health and safety education, design, park maintenance, horticulture, education, consultation, services, etc; and/or
 - High recommendations and respect from the staff within the agency for which the individual works now

OUTSTANDING SUPPORT STAFF AWARD

Qualifications:

- A support person who best exemplifies customer service and outstanding performance in assisting internal/external customers in the field of parks and recreation
- Improves or enhances the quality of work life in ways that make a difference for co-workers
- Contributes to outstanding improvements in customer services (internal/external)
- Develops creative solutions to problems that result in more effective and efficient operations

CITATION OF MERIT AWARDS

Outstanding Individual – An individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the park, recreation, and conservation movement in the form of, but not limited to, the following:

- Preparing and/or sponsoring legislation
- Supporting and promoting the movement on all levels
- Serving as a board or commission member
- Serving on a citizens’ committee which worked to raise funds, secure approval of bond issues, promote special projects, etc.
- Outstanding volunteer services to the field on a city, county, state, regional, or national level

- Generous grants of land, money, equipment, scholarships, or other gifts which affect the total field; and/or
- Other services which, in the opinion of the Awards and Citation Committee, entitle the individual to be considered

Partner Organization – A partnering organization, whose involvement has affected the parks and recreation field rather than for commercial reward or profit in the form of, but not limited to, the following:

- Outstanding volunteer services to the field
- Active support of IRPA/NRPA at the state, regional, or national level
- Development of professional operational procedures, significant research, or method of recruitment of personnel to the field
- Development of improved college curriculum in the field through enlarging staff or re-organization
- Development of new equipment, apparatus, or layout of facilities; and/or
- Generous grants of land, money, equipment, scholarships, or other gifts of state, regional or national significance

OUTSTANDING PARK OR FACILITY AWARD

Eligible projects include:

- Park - such as regional, community, or neighborhood parks; trails, tot lots, playgrounds, etc.
- Facility - such as community centers, health and fitness centers, aquatic centers, recreation centers, nature centers, etc.
- Special Use - such as dog parks, sports fields, golf courses, skate parks, ice skating rinks, or anything that may not fit in the first two categories

Qualifications:

- The nominated park/facility, etc. must belong to a member agency or employ a member of IRPA
- All entries must have been completed within the last 3 years
- Criteria for judging may include, but not be limited to:
 - Maintenance/Operation design (i.e., cost effectiveness, easier methods)
 - Visibility and appearance
 - Energy efficiency
 - Special challenge(s)
 - Innovative design and/or equipment
 - Most efficient use
 - Benefits to, and/or protection of, natural resources (i.e., habitat, archeological sites, wetlands, etc.)
 - Uniqueness of design as it applies to the above-listed criteria
- Entries should include the following:
 - Photos showing “before” and “after” scenes
 - Narrative describing the project with steps taken in its design and development, funding source(s), approximate dates of first planning and final completion, list of agencies/entities if a partnership project, and how project fits within the award category criteria, i.e. what makes this an outstanding project

OUTSTANDING INNOVATIVE PROGRAM

Eligibility:

Parks and recreation agencies, private organizations, individuals, colleges/universities, government entities (Idaho Fish and Game, Idaho Department of Parks & Recreation, US Fish and Wildlife Service), etc. within the state of Idaho who have provided outstanding recreation benefits to a community.

Qualifications:

- Exceptional innovation in program design
- Significant expansion or modification of existing program(s)
- Significant cost savings
- New or unique services to special populations
- Response to a critical need in the community