

FARADAY SCIENCE COMMUNICATOR AWARD

SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

PROGRAM SUMMARY

This award recognizes and honors an individual or organization that has inspired and elevated the public's interest in and appreciation of science.

AWARD

The award consists of an all-expense-paid trip (up to \$2,500) to attend the NSTA National Conference on Science Education. Awardees will be honored at the Awards Banquet during the NSTA conference.

ELIGIBILITY

Individual

The individual will not be a classroom teacher, but will work in or have developed a compatible setting for science communication: i.e., museum, nature center, zoo, state park, aquarium, radio, television, internet, or other science-rich institutions or media. The individual may also be connected to a science setting through his or her involvement with civic organizations and child-education facilities: i.e., preK child-development centers, 4-H clubs, Girl and Boy Scouts, Girls and Boys Clubs of America, and so on.

Organizational

The organization will facilitate and provide exemplary opportunities for science communication to the public. The organization will desire to instill in the public an appreciation for science through communication efforts at the local, state, and national levels.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

Applications will receive an initial review by a sub-committee of informal and awards committee members prior to final award selection by the NSTA Awards and Recognition Committee. As this is not an application driven award, the Awards and Recognition Committee may also choose someone who has not submitted an application.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

Excellence of contributions is the main criteria. Other criteria include

- ★ demonstrating active leadership in science communication at local, state, and national levels;
- ★ having noteworthy scholarly contributions in science communication;
- ★ directing the public's attention to the need for science communication and benefit to our global society;
- ★ contributing to expanding the availability of science teaching and learning opportunities for individuals who may have limited access to facilities in which these programs take place;
- ★ providing self-directed learning opportunities for students, teachers, or the general public; and
- ★ encouraging and fostering, through standards-driven curriculum and presentation, an individual's desire to learn more about science and technology.

AWARD SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

It is the nominator's responsibility to assemble an entry packet that must include

- ★ an abstract of application, not to exceed character equivalent of 250 words;
- ★ a narrative of no more than character equivalent of five double-spaced, single-sided pages describing the outstanding nature of the nominee's contributions to informal science communication. Address the nominee's philosophy of informal science communication, as well as his or her goals and objectives. What impact do you believe these activities have/will have on student learning? Describe the evolution and application of these practices in the nominee's informal venue;
- ★ supporting materials—including media in pdf format of newspaper articles, a picture portfolio, or lessons—that detail the nominee's informal science communication efforts. No more than character equivalent of five pages;
- ★ a vita of no more than the character equivalent of two single-sided, single-spaced pages that includes the nominee's science communication experience, professional activities, formal and continuing education, awards, and published materials;
- ★ three letters of support from individuals or groups who are familiar with the nature and quality of the candidate's classroom teaching effectiveness. Letters must address the specific requirements of this award and must accompany packet. Letters sent separately will not be considered. Letters should not exceed two pages each and must accompany packet. Letters sent separately will not be considered. When possible, use letterhead. Make sure letters are signed and dated accordingly. Letters should be written for and refer to applicant's strengths, accomplishments, and the highlights of his or her teaching or administration methods and experiences that directly connect to the application.

Upon receipt, all applications become the property of NSTA. Applications will not be returned. Late or faxed applications will not be accepted. Completed applications must be received by December 15, 2017. Use the on-line submission form at www.nsta.org/awards to complete your application. Any attachments shall be in pdf format.

Questions send e-mail to awards@nsta.org.