

NSTA DISTINGUISHED INFORMAL SCIENCE EDUCATION AWARD

PROGRAM SUMMARY

This award honors NSTA members who have made extraordinary contributions to the advancement of science education in an informal or nontraditional school setting, such as a science-technology center, museum, or community science center. The number of awards given each year is at the Awards and Recognition Committee's discretion.

AWARD

The award consists of three nights' hotel accommodation and \$500 toward expenses to attend the NSTA National Conference on Science Education. Awardees will be honored at the Awards Banquet held during the NSTA conference.

ELIGIBILITY

This award is open to NSTA members who are not classroom teachers and who have demonstrated their dedication to informal science education.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

Excellence of contribution is the main criterion for selection of the recipients. Among the types of outstanding services in informal science education that are considered by the committee are

- ★ unique or extraordinary accomplishments in informal science education;
- ★ active leadership in informal science education;
- ★ noteworthy scholarly contributions to informal science education;
- ★ focus of public attention on the need for improvement of informal science education;
- ★ direct and substantial contributions to the improvement of informal science education;
- ★ contributions over a significant period of time; and
- ★ overall excellence of contributions.

AWARD SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

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

- ★ an abstract, not to exceed 250 words, of the nominee's accomplishments;
- ★ a five-page, double-spaced narrative describing the outstanding nature of the nominee's distinguished service to informal science education. The font is a standard 12-point size or larger;
- ★ a professional vita, maximum three pages long;
- ★ three letters of support from individuals and groups who are familiar with the applicant's work. Letters should not exceed three 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 10, 2020. Use the on-line submission form at www.nsta.org/awards to complete your application. Questions send e-mail to awards@nsta.org.