

# HORACE MANN FRIEND OF EDUCATION AWARDS

## Six Categories:

### I. Journalism

1. **Print:** The nominee is employed in print journalism. The award recognition should be based around a story/stories involving an educational or Missouri NEA organizational issue. The affiliate and/or individual nominating should attempt to submit examples of the story/stories.
- B. **Radio:** The nominee is employed in radio. The award recognition should be based around a story/stories involving an educational or Missouri NEA organizational issue. The affiliate and/or individual nominating should attempt to submit a detailed description of the nominee.
- C. **Television:** The nominee is employed in television. The award recognition should be based around a story/stories involving an educational or Missouri NEA organizational issue. The affiliate and/or individual nominating should attempt to submit a detailed description of the nominee.

### II. Legislation

The nominee is an elected federal or state official who has worked for the passage of important educational legislation. The affiliate and/or individual nominating should list in detail the education legislation accomplishments of the nominee.

### III. Organizational

1. **Corporate:** The project sponsored by the corporation is devoted to an educational purpose or aspect. This could include direct help to students. Corporations assisting Missouri NEA either at the local or state level to obtain goals are also eligible. No Missouri NEA local affiliate is eligible for the award. The affiliate and/or individual nominating should describe in detail the actions of the organization which make it deserving of the award.
- B. **Civic:** The project sponsored by the civic organization is devoted to an educational purpose or aspect. This could include direct help to students. Organizations assisting Missouri NEA either at the local or state level to obtain goals are also eligible. No Missouri NEA local affiliate is eligible for the award. The affiliate and/or individual nominating should describe in detail the actions of the organization which make it deserving of the award.

### IV. Individual Contribution to Education

The nominee must not have been teaching at the time the action(s) being honored took place. The nominee must have through his/her actions advanced the cause of education in a district and/or directly helped Missouri NEA or an affiliate. The affiliate and/or individual nominating should describe in detail the action of the nominee which make him/her deserving of the award.

### V. Teacher

Nominee must be an active classroom teacher, counselor, librarian, specialist, etc. and a Missouri NEA member during the year in which the award applies. The nominee should have exhibited outstanding performance as an educator and be a model for other educators to follow.

If the Missouri Teacher of the Year is an MNEA member, the year following their service, the Teacher of the Year will be an automatic nominee for the Horace Mann Teaching Award provided that they are still in the classroom.

The nominator must submit a statement of up to three pages (12-point type, double spaced, one-inch margins) that addresses the following criteria:

1. **Professional Practice:** The nominee demonstrates instructional expertise, creativity, and innovation. The nominee uses a variety of pedagogical techniques and effectively addresses students' different learning styles and needs. The nominee is an instructional leader at the local, state, and/or national level.
2. **Advocacy For The Profession:** The nominee is a current, active member of the local, state, and/or national education association, and has assumed leadership roles at one or more of these levels. The nominee is an active member of other professional organizations and engages in activities that advance the profession and public education. The nominee speaks out on behalf of public education, educators, and students.
3. **Community Engagement:** The nominee frequently interacts with parents and other community members on substantive education issues. The nominee brings community resources to the classroom and conducts service learning projects with his or her students in the community.
4. **Leadership in Professional Development:** The nominee continually engages in experiences to improve his or her practice and to gain new skills and knowledge. The nominee shares this new learning with colleagues in a variety of venues. The nominee's participation in and commitment to professional development has a visible impact on his or her institution, students, and community.
5. **Attention to Diversity:** The nominee works to provide a learning environment that meets the needs of all students, regardless of differences. The nominee recognizes and explicitly addresses the full array of values, cultures, and experiences represented in our diverse modern society, both through curriculum and instruction and in other interactions with students.

*The winner of this award shall be the Missouri NEA nominee for the NEA Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence.*

## **VI. Education Support Professional**

The nominee must be an active education support professional and a Missouri NEA member during the year in which the award applies. The nominee should have exhibited outstanding performance at the worksite and be a model for other education support professionals to follow. The affiliate and/or individual nominating should provide a detailed summary of why the nominee is an outstanding education support professional, answering the five questions that follow:

1. **Professional Practice:** Describe the worksite responsibilities and personal achievements the nominee has made in his/her classification or field. How has the nominee demonstrated leadership, creativity, and innovation at the work site? How has the nominee's professional growth made a difference for the school, the students, and community?
2. **Advocacy and Association Involvement:** In what ways does the nominee serve as an advocate in the day-to-day educational process, for members, for the profession, and for public education? How has the nominee's involvement in the National Education Association or NEA affiliate(s) contributed to his/her success as a professional? How would the nominee persuade a new colleague to join or become more active in the Association?

3. **Community Engagement:** Specify in detail how the nominee has been involved in promoting public education in the community. In what other ways is the nominee involved in community activities/projects?
4. **Personal Achievement:** How has involvement in Association and community activities enabled the nominee to meet his/her own personal goals? What advice would the nominee give to someone entering the profession?
5. **Enhancement of ESP Image:** Describe in detail how the nominee's activities have enhanced the image of Educational Support Professionals at the worksite, in the Association, and in the community.

***The winner of this award shall be the Missouri NEA nominee for the NEA-ESP of the Year Award subject to NEA guidelines for eligibility, which state that nominees must be NEA members for three years as of January 15<sup>th</sup> of the award year.***

### **Nomination Procedures:**

Missouri NEA Board members, staff and other personnel hired by Missouri NEA are ineligible for this award.

Nominations may be made by a local association, a governance council or an Active, ESP, Reserve, Student, Retired, Substitute, or Life member. Nominations should be submitted in writing to the Missouri NEA President. The Horace Mann Award for Teacher is due by December 15. The Horace Mann Awards in the areas of Journalism, Legislation, Organizational Achievement and ESP are due by February 15. The Board of Directors will determine award winners. Awards will not necessarily be given in each category each year. Awards will be presented at the Spring Representative Assembly.

If in any given year, in the judgment of the Board, there is no appropriate candidate, this award will not be given.

All nominations should include:

1. Category for which nominated.
2. Name, home address, work address (where it applies), home phone, work phone (where it applies).
3. Qualifications of candidate.
4. Description of actions meriting the award – can include samples of actual work.
5. Nominator's name, address, phone and local.
6. A maximum of three other endorsement letters can be attached. MNEA staff members are precluded from writing endorsement letters.

Adopted Missouri NEA Board of Directors 2/23/80  
Revised Missouri NEA Board of Directors 05/17/08  
Revised Missouri NEA Board of Directors 10/15/11  
Revised Missouri NEA Board of Directors 5/21/2016  
Revised Missouri NEA Board of Directors 8/1/2021