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WV Humanities Council
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Twenty-eighth Annual West Virginia History Hero Award Application



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WV Department of Arts, Culture & History
WV Archives & History
Commission
Preservation Alliance of WV, Inc.

HISTORY DAY – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2024

**Nominations Must Be Postmarked to
West Virginia Archives and History
No Later Than 31 December 2023**

*SEND TO: History Hero Award; WV Archives and History
The Culture Center, Bldg. 9, 1900 Kanawha Blvd E, Charleston, WV 25305-0300*

State, county and local historical, genealogical, preservation, patriotic and/or museum organizations are encouraged to nominate their most significant member for a History Hero Award by completing this form and submitting it with supporting documentation. Criteria for the award include dedicated supporting service for the organization's programs, or a recent significant contribution to state and local history through research, interpretation, publication or preservation. Nominations may only be submitted by a historical, genealogical, preservation, museum, patriotic or like organization through its official representative or officer. Nominations **must be signed in blue ink by the group's officer or designated representative**, and must be postmarked no later than 31 December 2023. History Hero Awards will be presented during the annual History Day program at The Culture Center on Wednesday, 21 February 2024. Nominations will be reviewed in accordance with the enclosed rules. Notification will be mailed to groups making nominations and to all successful nominees on 26 January 2024. While it is not mandatory, successful nominees are requested to be present to receive their History Hero Award during the program on 21 February 2024. A complete list of all rules is attached.

Name of Nominee: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone number: _____ E-mail: _____
Physical Home Address (*if same as mailing address, write "Same"*): _____

1. Nominee's physical home address, if different from mailing address, **MUST** be provided on this form in order for us to verify nominee's state delegate(s) and senator(s) (2024 session).
2. Please answer the questions on pages 2 and 3 of this form. (Nomination will be rejected for failure to comply.) Leave blank any questions that do not apply to the nominee.
3. **Name of Contact Person** (Group's Officer or Designated Representative): _____
4. **Signature of Contact Person (blue ink)**: _____

Name of Organization: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Address of Contact Person: _____
Phone number: (Day) _____ (Evening) _____ E-mail: _____
Preferred method and time to contact for additional information: _____

(Attach or enclose supporting documentation such as examples of individual's work, press or media clips, testimonials, photograph, etc. All applications and submitted supporting materials are retained by Archives and History and will not be returned.)

The contact person will be sent written confirmation of receipt of this form by Archives and History. If such confirmation is not received within two weeks of submission, please contact Archives and History at (304) 558-0230.

Questions about completing the West Virginia History Hero Award Application should be directed to:
Mary Johnson, mary.e.johnson2@wv.gov or (304) 558-0230.

The following questions seek specific information about the nominee's contributions to state and local history or to the nominating organization. The information is used not only in reviewing the nomination but also in preparing the biographical sketch that is printed in the History Hero program and provided to legislators and the media. Although space limitations will not permit the inclusion of all information in the biographical sketch, please use Questions 1 through 3 to provide details that support the nomination. Question 4 is intended as a summary of the nominee's contributions as detailed in the first three questions.

1. Has the nominee held any offices with the nominating organization? List offices and include years of service if possible.

Is the nominee a current officer? _____ Current office: _____

2. In which **nominating organization** activities has the nominee been involved? (Such activities would include, for example, heading a committee that compiled a book for the society and volunteering at the organization's library or museum.) Please describe the nominee's contributions.

Has the nominee made other important contributions **to the nominating organization**? If yes, explain.

3. Has the nominee made a **recent significant contribution** to state or local history as an interpreter of a historical event or person, by spearheading efforts to preserve a historical building or site, through research and writing on a topic of state or local history for the Web or print publication, or through other activities? Explain.
4. In approximately 100 words, summarize the nominee’s significant work and contributions to the preservation and dissemination of our state’s history for which he or she is being nominated for a West Virginia History Hero Award. **This summary should be based on answers to the previous questions and should not introduce new information.**
5. *Answer Optional.* List local media that you would like us to notify if your History Hero nomination is approved. Please make sure this information is current.
6. Nominee’s current, most recently elected state delegate(s) and senator(s) (2024 session).

WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY HERO CRITERIA

1. The purpose of this award is to give state-level recognition to ONE individual (*husband and wife will be considered as one nomination only if they worked as a team on a project*) per organization (historical, genealogical, preservation, patriotic, and/or museum) per year for his/her dedicated service for the organization's programs or a recent significant contribution to state and local history through research, interpretation, preservation, publication, or web site presentation.
2. The West Virginia History Hero Award is a one-time only recognition. A listing of previous recipients may be found at <http://archive.wvculture.org/history/historyday/historyheroalpha.html>.
3. State, county and local historical, genealogical, preservation, patriotic and/or museum organizations are encouraged to complete the nomination form and provide supporting documentation to nominate a member who has made a significant contribution within the past year, or for years of dedicated, continued service for a West Virginia History Hero Award. Nominations may only be submitted by official action of an organization and not by individuals and MUST be signed by an officer or designated representative who is NOT the nominee.
4. West Virginia History Hero Award recognition will only be given to a person who is living or who died no more than 12 months prior to the December 31 deadline for submission of a nomination.
5. Those persons holding a public office or employed by a state, county, or local government agency may not be nominated for activities or service they performed as a part of their duties.
6. A 100-word description, which lists and describes the candidate's achievements, MUST be provided. A nomination which exceeds this may not be considered by sponsors. The program's biographical sketch will be abstracted from this. Supporting documentation is necessary to assist sponsors in determining eligibility.
7. Supporting documentation, as requested in number 6 above, will not be returned but will be retained by Archives and History.
8. Submitters will be notified at least one week prior to West Virginia History Day of the success or failure of their nomination. The submitter will inform its nominee of the acceptance and arrange transportation to Charleston for him/her. It is preferred that nominees be present to receive their award; however, if that is not possible, arrangements should be made for a pro tem.
9. The only reason for cancellation of West Virginia History Day is closing of State Government for a reason as ordered by the Governor.
10. Deadline for submission of West Virginia History Hero nominations is set annually for December 31 for each succeeding year. Nominations should be mailed to:

**Archives and History
Attn: History Hero
The Culture Center, Bldg. 9
1900 Kanawha Blvd. E.
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0300**