

Association for the Study of African American Life and History
Executive Council
Awards Committee Report
February 28, 2021

Awards Committee Members: Dr. Anton House, Dr. David Walton, Professor Camesha Scruggs (Vice Chair), Dr. Edna Greene Medford (Chair)

Nominations Procedures:

The Committee seeks candidates whose scholarship and service merit the recognition reflected by the awards. The candidates should have a national reputation or are recognized broadly for their noteworthy achievements and commitment to furthering ASALH's mission and Dr. Woodson's legacy. The exception is the Luminary Award, which honors the efforts of a candidate in the conference host city or surrounding area.

Candidates may self-nominate or be recommended by someone else. Applications consist of a nomination form, a 150-word biography that includes information relevant to the award criteria, and a high resolution (300 dpi) photo. Procedures, descriptions, criteria for each award and a list of previous awardees can be found at <https://asalh.org/awards>.

In response to challenges of previous years in which notification to awardees sometimes allowed insufficient time to prepare to attend the conference, the Executive Council agreed to change the timeline. The new timeline is accessible on the ASALH website. As a reminder, the deadline for receipt of nominations (this year only) is March 31, with a deadline in subsequent years of March 15. Recommendations for 2021 will be reported to the Council in time for consideration at the April meeting. Awardees will be notified no later than June 10, and their awards will be presented at the annual conference.

Awards Committee Efforts to Date:

Although the Awards Committee got a late start in pursuing its charge, it is now moving forward to ensure this year's nominations process is smooth and uneventful. Professor Scruggs and Dr. Medford attended the Branches Meeting in February to acquaint members with the procedure for nominating candidates and to solicit their assistance. The Committee is developing a series of emails that will be sent out over the next few weeks to the ASALH membership. And it is seeking the Council's assistance, especially, in identifying likely candidates for each award.

The Committee is also reviewing the list of candidates identified through last year's nominations process. As you are aware, the Council did not approve last year's recommendations and declined to present awards in 2020. Instead, candidates' names were returned to the Committee for further review and consideration.

Please direct any questions regarding awards nominations, description and criteria to awards@asalh.org.

Reported by Edna Greene Medford, Ph.D., Chair