



George Garrett Award for Outstanding Community Service in Literature Submission Guidelines

Criteria

The award will be given to a living individual who has demonstrated exceptional generosity and service to writers by excellent work in one or more of the following activities:

- Teaching creative writing and literature
- Serving as a mentor, supporter, or guide to writers
- Publishing or editing literature, especially works by emerging talents
- Building new resources that benefit writers (reading series, presses, awards, endowments, fellowships, stipends, programs, community centers, foundations, etc.)
- Administering to programs or institutions that benefit writers or that expand audiences for contemporary authors
- Working generally to make North America a more supportive place for contemporary literature and its makers

To receive the award, the recipient must be willing to travel to the AWP Annual Conference.

Eligibility Requirements

Any living individual who meets the above criteria may be nominated for the award except for the following: members of the current AWP Board of Directors or AWP staff; family members of the AWP Board of Directors or AWP staff; and former AWP board members or AWP staff who served AWP within the last four years.

A former board member or staff member of AWP may be nominated for the award only after at least four years have lapsed between the deadline for nominations and his or her last official day of service to AWP. Previous recipients of the award may not be nominated or considered. Self-nominations will not be considered.

Letters of Nomination

Anyone, nonmember or member of AWP, may submit a letter of nomination. Nomination letters should feature the following:

- An explanation of how your nominee fulfills the criteria cataloged above.
- Specificity. Please note where the nominee did good works, length of service, names of writers helped, or detailed descriptions of what your nominee did or built in support of writers.
- Brevity. Your letter of nomination should be no longer than two pages, single-spaced.
- Attribution. Your name, return address, and signature must appear on your letter.

The Award Committee reviews over 100 letters each year. Please prepare your letter with care.

Letters of nomination are accepted each year between August 1 and September 30 and should be submitted through AWP's Submittable portal. Please address all letters of nomination to:

Cynthia Sherman
Executive Director
Association of Writers & Writing Programs
5700 Rivertech Ct, Suite 225
Riverdale Park, MD 20737-1250

Duration of Active Nominations

Letters of nomination will remain in active consideration for three years, for three cycles of the process of adjudication. If you submit your letter in 2020, for instance, your letter of nomination will remain active until the end of the 2023 cycle of deliberations.

Process

Each year the AWP Board of Directors and AWP staff choose three individuals to serve as judges of the nominees, with one person each representing the board, the staff, and the general membership of AWP. This award committee of three judges ranks and selects the recipient of the award. AWP selects new judges each year. As is the case with other literary awards, the deliberations of the judges are confidential.