



*Surprising Solutions: Arts Education*

## 2017 Arts Education Awards

### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

**The Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education (MAAE) is seeking nominations for the 2017 Arts Education Awards. Awards will be presented at the Arts Education Awards Ceremony in June on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.**

#### **NOMINATION PROCESS**

Teachers, administrators and program/institution leaders may nominate themselves or their own programs, or others may nominate them. Each award category requires a completed nomination form, a narrative that answers several questions, and supporting documents. Deadline for receipt of the complete nomination packet is **Friday, April 21, 2017**. This is not a postmark date; it is a receipt deadline.

**PLEASE NOTE: Award recipients must be present** at the MAAE Arts Education Awards Event to receive the award.

#### **SELECTION PROCESS**

An awards panel that includes representatives from across the state will review and evaluate all nominations submitted by the deadline. **The recipient will be notified about selection by May 13, 2017.** All other nominees will receive written notification once the awards have been publicly announced. **ONLY COMPLETE NOMINATION PACKETS** will be considered. Requests for the return of nomination materials must be accompanied by a self-addressed return mail package that includes adequate postage.

*Please help us recognize an individual, a school, or an institution that has demonstrated exemplary achievement by submitting a nomination in one of the following award categories:*

## **AWARD CATEGORIES AND CRITERIA**

### **School of Excellence/School District Arts Program Award**

To recognize and honor individual schools or school districts that make the arts an essential part of education by:

- 1) Teaching the arts as specific disciplines;
- 2) Making strong interdisciplinary connections between the arts and other subjects;
- 3) Promoting imaginative learning environments that include hands-on, creative arts-based instructional practices;
- 4) Providing opportunities for multicultural learning through the arts.

Up to six awards are made annually, providing that a sufficient pool of nominees is available.

### **Thad Cochran Distinguished Arts Educator Award**

To honor Pre K-12 arts discipline specialists, teachers, curriculum coordinators, or project directors who integrate the arts for:

- 1) Superior teaching, including evidence of strong interdisciplinary planning;
- 2) Professional involvement and leadership beyond the classroom;
- 3) Ability to communicate effectively about arts education.

One award is made annually in each discipline, including dance, music, theatre, visual art, media arts, and arts integration, providing that a sufficient pool of nominees is available.

### **Outstanding Administrator Award**

To honor a superintendent, district coordinator or principal:

- 1) Demonstrating support for, and commitment to high quality arts education programs;
- 2) Active advocacy for the arts and excellent rapport with students, teachers, parents, and the community;
- 3) Outstanding leadership in motivating teachers, other administrators, school boards, parents and community organizations to provide the best possible education—one that includes the arts—for all students.

One award is made annually, providing that a sufficient pool of nominees is available.

### **Arts Advocacy Award**

To honor individuals, organizations, corporations, etc., who are strong advocates for arts education by:

- 1) Demonstrating support for, and commitment to high quality arts education programs;
- 2) Engaging in professional activity and leadership;
- 3) Offering outstanding leadership in motivating teachers, administrators, school boards, parents and community organizations to provide the best possible education—one that includes the arts—for all students;
- 4) Advocating for the arts and arts-in-education at the school district, community, regional or state levels
- 5) Sharing enthusiasm, creativity, and imagination to support an arts-centric Mississippi.

One award is made annually, providing that a sufficient pool of nominees is available.

## **Excellence in Higher Education Award**

To honor individuals, departments and/or institutions in higher education for:

- 1) Superior teaching, including evidence of arts education leadership or research;
- 2) Professional activity and leadership beyond the local campus;
- 3) Evidence of modeling best practices of arts education through teacher education courses and programs

One award is made annually, providing that a sufficient pool of nominees is available.

## **Exemplary Arts Service Award**

To honor a MAAE member or organization that demonstrates outstanding achievement, service or contribution to arts education in Mississippi. To be eligible for this award, the nominee must be a member of MAAE. In addition, the nominee must have worked in the field of arts education for at least 5 years while demonstrating some of the following:

- 1) Active participation in the development of or support for arts programs, (e.g., artist residencies in the schools, summer arts camps, after school programs);
- 2) Leadership in developing partnerships between schools and the community for use of cultural resources such as visits to cultural institutions, organizations, and events (art museums, concerts, and performances of opera, dance, theatre, etc.);
- 3) Advocacy for the arts and arts-in-education at the school district, community, regional or state levels;
- 4) Financial or in-kind support of arts programs in a school district.

One award is made annually and bestowed only when there is a candidate worthy of recognition. The MAAE Board of Directors upon recommendation by the awards panel will select the award recipient.

## **Distinguished Community Arts Agency/Cultural Institution Program Award**

To honor a community arts agency or cultural institution that has been in operation at least five years and has made significant contributions to teachers, students and the community through arts programs and collaborative partnerships that:

- 1) Stimulate community support for the arts and arts education in the schools and community;
- 2) Demonstrate models of partnering with schools, other cultural institutions, and/or the business community to develop arts programs for youth and adults;
- 3) Serve as a resource to schools or community arts organizations and provide services to facilitate the production of arts events performed by students.

One award is made annually, providing that a sufficient pool of nominees is available.

## **Lifetime Achievement in Arts Education Award**

To honor individuals for:

- 1) Consistently making outstanding contributions to arts education throughout a career
- 2) Advocacy for arts education throughout a career
- 3) Professional activity and leadership in arts education beyond the occupational setting

One award is made annually, providing that a sufficient pool of nominees is available.

*Nomination forms may be printed or downloaded from the MAAE website:  
<http://www.msartsalliance.com/news-events/arts-education-awards/>*

## **Nomination Form and Supporting Materials**

Please read the description of the criteria for each award carefully.

### **Required for nomination packet:**

- 1) Nomination form** (see next page)
- 2) Current vita/resume** (for individual award nominees only)
- 3) Biography of 100 words**
- 4) Three letters of recommendation from individuals such as:**
  - Current school district Superintendent or Chief Executive Officer;
  - Immediate supervisor (such as dance, music, theatre, visual art, or classroom supervisor, or another administrator familiar with your teaching or work);
  - One person of your choice who is knowledgeable about your teaching or work.
- 5) Enclose the following:**
  - A Thumbdrive with a head shot of the nominee for the individual awards OR a picture of the group's board, school arts leaders, etc., **AND 6-8 still photos** that *show the story* to celebrate the arts in education work to accompany the application. **BE SURE that the pictures showcase the reasons the person/school/group DESERVES the award.**

\*\*\*

**Please Note:** The complete packet as described above must be submitted by U.S. mail.

**Nomination deadline: Friday, April 21, 2017**

Send the complete packet to:

**Judy Duncan, MAAE Awards Chair  
T.K. Martin Center at MSU  
P.O. Box 9736  
MS State, MS 39762**

*Please share this information with:*

**Arts Teachers, Principals, Administrators, School Committees, Arts Advocates, Higher Education Faculty,  
Local Museums, Cultural Institutions and Community Arts Programs**

# AWARDS NOMINATION FORM 2017

Please check only ONE award category per nomination:

- School of Excellence/School District                       Outstanding Administrator of the Year
- Thad Cochran Distinguished Arts Educator                       Exemplary Arts Service Award
- (check one)  Dance  Arts Integration  Music  
 Theatre  Visual Arts  Media Arts                       Excellence in Higher Education Award
- Distinguished Community Arts Agency *or*                       Lifetime Achievement Award  
 Cultural Institution Program Award
- Arts Advocacy Award
- 

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (day) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (evening) \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Check one of the following statements:

The nominee is a member of MAAE.  The nominee is interested in becoming a member of MAAE.

If nominee is a school, district, institution, or agency, please supply the following information:

Name of school/district/institution/agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual's position/title: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Total teaching/administrative experience: (number of years – all positions) \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of years at current position: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Superintendent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please list professional arts and community organizations in which the individual nominee is an active member. Indicate offices and responsibilities held in these organizations (use a separate sheet, if necessary).*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (day) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (evening) \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

In what capacity do you know the nominee? \_\_\_\_\_

---

## **MAAE Awards Nomination Narrative**

Please read and respond to all questions. Base answers on ways the nominee meets the stated criteria for the award. Please limit your response to 500 words or less for each question. Use a separate sheet if necessary.

1. **PRACTICE:** Describe events or experiences from the past five years that illustrate how the nominee is directly involved in arts education. (20 points)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. **PERFORMANCE:** What qualities distinguish the nominee from others who do similar work? (30 points)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. **ACHIEVEMENT:** In what ways has the nominee been recognized for excellence or leadership in arts education? (25 points)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. **COMMITMENT:** How does the nominee promote the benefits of arts education that this award celebrates? (25 points)

The Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education is the statewide arts advocacy organization, committed to increasing public understanding of the benefits of arts education and providing arts education for all students—from their first school day until graduation.

*The mission of the Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education is to advocate for high quality, comprehensive, and sequential arts education for all Mississippi students.*

**MAAE Contact Information:**

Dr. Penny Wallin, Executive Director  
Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education  
2140 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Laurel, MS 39440

Shannon Frost, Finance & Membership Director  
Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education  
4550 Normandy Drive  
Jackson, MS 39206

**E-mail:** [maaedirector@gmail.com](mailto:maaedirector@gmail.com)

[shannon@msartsalliance.com](mailto:shannon@msartsalliance.com)

**Phones:**

601-301-1095 Office  
601-268-6906 Fax

601-954-8880 Cell

**MAAE Website:**

<http://www.msartsalliance.com>

*The Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education is a member of Americans for the Arts and receives partial funding from the Mississippi Arts Commission and support from the Weissman Family Foundation.*