

Montana Recreation and Park Association Award Nominations - Deadline August 31, 2009

Do you know a professional in parks and recreation that you would like to recognize? Why not take a few moments and nominate them for consideration of an MRPA award.

The Montana Recreation and Park Association, an affiliate of the National Recreation and Park Association, presents two professional awards annually to recognize individuals for significant contributions to Parks and Recreation. Awards will be presented at the 2009 MRPA Annual Conference in Great Falls, MT in September.

Purpose: To recognize and honor individuals for exemplary service and outstanding contributions to parks, recreation and conservation in Montana.

Categories: Young Professional, Professional

Eligibility: Open to individual professionals in the state of Montana. Qualifications are listed below for each category.

To make a nomination prepare a brief biographical statement of the nominee and an abstract, not to exceed 200 words, that describes why you are making the nomination. Include your name and contact information as well as nominee contact information and return it by August 31st to:

Rick Harbin
Colstrip Park and Recreation District
P.O. Box 127,
Colstrip, MT 59323
E-mail: rharbin@colstripparks.com

AWARD ELEGIBILITY QUALIFICATIONS

Young Professional Award

These professionals are not necessarily the directors or leaders that have been visible in the field, but they are the up and coming leaders. They should possess all of those qualities and skills that indicate they are emerging leaders. At this time in their career they are actively participating in professional development, in MRPA and or in NRPA activities as well as taking advantage of other opportunities to learn and grow within their chosen field.

Qualifications:

- 35 Years of age or less as of December 31st of the nominating year
- Membership in MRPA
- Minimum of 5 years of experience as a leader, instructor, supervisor, administrator, consultant, or any combination of these in the field of parks and recreation.
- Service:
 1. Distinctive leadership in promotion, organization, and development of a pioneer-type activity in parks and recreation
 2. Contributions to the profession through MRPA, its branches and affiliates
 3. Outstanding service to the profession through the allied fields of arts, crafts, sports, health and safety education, design, park maintenance, resource management, conservation, horticulture, education, consultation, services, etc.
 4. High recommendations and respect from the staff within the agency for which the individual works currently.

Professional Award

Qualifications:

- Membership in MRPA
- Minimum of 10 years in the field of parks and recreation
- Continuous contributions to the field at the local, state, regional, or national level. (Not for a single contribution)
- Candidate must have made recurring and valuable contributions to the parks and recreation field in one or more of the following areas
 1. Leadership- Active and exceptional participation as an officer or committee member of the MRPA or other organization closely related to parks, recreation and conservation field
 2. Research- Initiation or implementation of studies or analysis which advance new ideas, techniques or procedures stimulating the profession or extending its philosophy or methods or practice.
 3. Job performance – consistently outstanding performance of all aspects of assigned responsibilities and professional endeavors.
 4. Education- initiation or implementation of training programs or development of training methods or materials for professional personnel, which resulted in high professional standards or achieved exceptional results.
 5. Public Relations- Outstanding contributions in furthering the aims and public image of effective parks, recreation and conservation profession through public speeches, participation in public forum or panel groups, appearance before radio/television audiences, writing articles, manuals, or books on the parks, recreation and conservation discipline, or in any other manner adding to the prestige of the profession and building on its acceptance by the public.