

2015 Heritage Awards Nomination Guidelines

The Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area is a State-certified program with the purpose of stimulating economic development through heritage tourism. Each year, the heritage area Management Board recognizes the accomplishments of our community partners in this effort with awards in several categories: **Individual Achievement, Outstanding Project, Organizational Excellence, and Business Partnership.**

AWARD CATEGORIES

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT

This award recognizes a person for his/her contributions to the heritage community by interpreting, preserving, promoting, researching, and/or supporting local history and cultural traditions.

Criteria

- Significant achievement in preserving, promoting, interpreting or encouraging heritage awareness that results in improved public appreciation of local history and cultural heritage
- Dedicated involvement in local heritage concerns
- Leadership in managing a heritage-related: event, organization, facility or natural resource
- Engagement in: Restoring, designing or crafting heritage-related works of art, architecture, the humanities, or other creative expression; saving or maintaining an important landmark.

OUTSTANDING PROJECT

This award recognizes an exceptional project, event, or activity conducted/sponsored by an organization, business, individual, or local government that highlights Dorchester's natural or cultural heritage and/or increases public awareness of its history, heritage and cultural traditions.

Criteria

- Any project in Dorchester County that preserves or promotes the cultural heritage and enriches community life, including restoration, revitalization or rehabilitation of property, a heritage-related event, stewardship of natural resources, oral histories, exhibits, publications, and programs.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

This award recognizes an organization or local government that demonstrates sustained achievement in contributing to heritage preservation, promotion, interpretation, or tourism efforts.

Criteria

- Sponsoring outstanding heritage interpretation or tourism product, including exhibits, tours, websites, programming, etc.

- Providing sustained contributions to the community's heritage, such as actively participating in preservation efforts, promoting resource stewardship, encouraging advocacy, etc.

BUSINESS PARTNER

This award recognizes a for-profit partner that demonstrates sustained commitment to heritage preservation and/or promotion including historic preservation, cultural or natural resource stewardship, advocacy, or heritage tourism opportunities in the Heart of Chesapeake Country.

Criteria

- A business or individual that provides or sponsors outstanding heritage interpretation or tourism product, including exhibits, tours, websites, events, etc.
- Sustained contributions to preserving the community's heritage

NOMINATION PROCESS

Nominations can be made by any individual or organization. Self-nominations are encouraged.

Please submit nominations to one of the following addresses by Friday, April 17, 2015:

There are three ways to nominate:

1. On-line form: <http://goo.gl/forms/NhMzfGgH7C>
2. Email form to: **kiri@visitdorchester.org**
3. Print & mail to: **Kiri Carini**
Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area
2 Rose Hill Place
Cambridge, MD 21613

Selection and Presentation of Awards

A committee of community members and staff will review nominations and make their recommendations for awards to the Management Board of the Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area who then votes to approve all awards. Formal announcement of the 2015 Heritage Award recipients will be made at the Annual Awards Event.

For Information:

Kiri@VisitDorchester.org

410-228-1000 x13

These awards of distinction are made possible through the Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area Management Board with the support of the Maryland Heritage Area Authority.