



## CONFEDERATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

### ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAM CRITERIA

#### AWARD CATEGORIES

The Confederation of South Carolina Local Historical Societies established an award program to recognize the special achievements of historical organizations, volunteers in historical organizations, professionals, and other entities that further the programs and projects of historical organizations. Awards are available to member organizations, individuals, and others for outstanding work in promoting and preserving South Carolina's heritage.

The Confederation will recognize winners at its Awards Banquet at the South Carolina Landmark Conference each year. The Awards Committee will notify and invite recipients to the annual awards banquet to accept their plaques.

The following awards are given:

- **Robert N. Pryor Volunteer Service Award**
- **Alexander S. Salley Professional Service Award**
- **Awards of Merit**

#### AWARD DETAILS

##### ROBERT N. PRYOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

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**Who:** An individual belonging to a Confederation member organization

**Why:** For supplying outstanding lifetime volunteer service to a Confederation member organization

**How Many:** The Awards Committee may select one individual annually.

**Judging Criteria:**

- The nominee must belong to a Confederation member organization and must have received no compensation for work done.
- The nominee must have demonstrated unselfish loyalty to the organization and devoted time, talent, energy, and resources to the preservation and interpretation of state and/or local history. The committee may give priority to a volunteer whose work and contributions have statewide impact.
- Nominations must include a biographical sketch that emphasizes the nominee's involvement with local history and related organizations.
- Nominations must be accompanied by two letters of support and a photograph.
- Nominations may include related material like news clippings, reviews, evaluations, and photographs.

##### ALEXANDER S. SALLEY PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AWARD

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**Who:** An individual who belongs to a Confederation member organization and receives compensation for work in local history, historic preservation, or heritage-related tourism.

**Why:** For giving distinguished lifetime service to a Confederation member organization.

**How Many:** The awards committee may select one individual annually.

**Judging Criteria:**

- The nominee must belong to a Confederation member organization.
- The nominee must have contributed significantly to some aspect of history or historic preservation and must have professionally advanced the cause of state and/or local history. The committee may give priority to a history professional whose work and contributions have statewide impact.
- Nominations must include a biographical sketch that emphasizes the nominee's involvement with local history and related organizations.
- Nominations must be accompanied by two letters of support and a photograph.
- Nominations may include related material like news clippings, reviews, evaluations, and photographs.

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**AWARDS OF MERIT**

**Who:**

- Member organizations for any number of projects, programs, etc., based on the capability of the local organization. These could include but are not limited to publications, exhibits, videos, audio-visual programs, public programs, youth/school programs, special events, use of a historic facility, or other significant and innovative projects to further the mission of the organization and the cause of local history. Some previous winners, for example, included the Calhoun County Museum for local history programming; Historic Columbia Foundation for public involvement in an archeological excavation at the Mann-Simons House; Yorkville Historical Society for its publication, *Yorkville to York*; Kershaw County Historical Society for training members as historical researchers; and the Berkeley County Historical Society for its varied programs and projects.
- Non-member organizations who are nominated by member organizations for outstanding services, manpower, money and/or ideas they have given to support the projects or programs of member organizations. These may include news media, businesses, and government agencies. A previous winner was Pat Willis, a reporter for *The Augusta Chronicle*. The Beech Island Historical Society nominated her for her outstanding coverage of local and state history in Aiken and Edgefield counties.

**Why:** For exceptional projects and/or programs that advanced local history

**How many:** The committee may present as many awards as it deems appropriate

**Judging Criteria:**

All programs and projects must have been conducted or completed during the previous calendar year.

Member Organization Criteria

- **Publications** can include books, journals, articles, brochures, pamphlets, and newsletters on county or regional topics. The committee will judge them on:
  - *Style:* layout, type, paper texture, colors, and illustrations
  - *Content:* accuracy, grammar, interest, and elements of a publication like a table of contents for a book or the address of an organization for a brochure
  - *Impact:* effectiveness of the way it communicates, educates, or persuades
  - To give the committee the chance to conduct a thorough review, include a copy of the publication and supply support material like evaluations, newspaper clippings, reviews,

testimonials, and other items to show that the publication generated interest in and enthusiasm for local history.

- **Exhibits, videos, and programs** will be judged on:
  - *Their historical/educational value*: includes historical significance, accuracy, and understandable narrative
  - *Their technical quality*: includes organization, aesthetic appeal, and the quality of visual and audio elements
  - *Their ability to communicate well with their intended audience*
  - Support material for this category is critical. Be sure to include newspaper clippings, evaluations, photographs, reviews, publicity, DVD or video, letters of recommendation, or any other material that will give the committee a clear picture of the quality and merit of the entry.
- **Historic facility** use will be judged on:
  - How well a member organization simultaneously preserves and uses a historic building
  - The committee will consider the building's history, a description of its present use, pictorial views of the building, the costs for projects, and the budget for operating and maintaining the building.

#### Non-Member Organization Criteria

- Nominees must have displayed initiative and/or long-term commitment in support of a member organization, or otherwise have demonstrated significant interest in advancing the cause of local history. Support may include in-kind assistance, leadership for a community project, or substantial funding (such as the establishment of an endowment fund).
- **Media awards** will be given for coverage relating to Confederation member organizations or events sponsored by them. The coverage must promote state and local history or historic preservation activities and provide an informed opinion on these topics.

#### **NOMINATION DEADLINE AND RETURN POLICY**

Nominations must be submitted with the official form available at [csclhs.org](http://csclhs.org). The form will include the current year's deadline and directions for submission. The deadline is March 1 for awards given at the April Landmark Conference of the same year.

The Confederation will keep all material unless the nominator asks for its return and provides a self-addressed package with adequate postage as well.

#### **NOMINATION PROCEDURES**

- The nomination form (available at [csclhs.org](http://csclhs.org)) must be completed in full for the nomination to be considered.
- Applicants must submit a summary statement for the project, person, or institution.
- Applicants are encouraged to submit as much relevant material as possible because the committee will evaluate projects solely on materials provided.
- Supporting materials should be confined to an 8½" x 11" notebook or binder.
- Organization and quality of the supporting material is important.
- Each nomination package should include photographs, CDs, online files, etc., if relevant.