

The North Carolina Awards

The North Carolina Awards were instituted by the 1961 General Assembly, which acted on the idea of Dr. Robert Lee Humber of Greenville, State Senator from Pitt County. These prestigious awards, as set forth in the General Statutes, recognize “notable accomplishments by North Carolina citizens in the fields of scholarship, research, the fine arts and public leadership.” They represent the highest honor the State of North Carolina can bestow upon a citizen. Awards are presented annually to individuals who have demonstrated exceptional dedication to artistic and literary expression, scientific achievement, and civic leadership.



The North Carolina Award, designed by eminent sculptor Paulanship (1885-1966)

Awards Categories

“These recognitions shall be known as the North Carolina Awards for Literature, Science, the Fine Arts and Public Service, and shall be conferred upon citizens of North Carolina for the most notable attainments in these respective fields during the current year...and for eminence achieved during years prior to the award.” (NCGS §140A-2)

Individuals may be nominated in the following categories:

- Fine Arts
- Literature
- Public Service
- Science

Awards Eligibility

- Recipients must have made significant, documented contributions to the State of North Carolina in one of the awards categories.
- Recipients must have been born in North Carolina *or*, if originally from elsewhere, must be current residents of North Carolina.
- Recipients must agree to attend the awards presentation to receive the award.



The North Carolina Awards program is administered by the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, a state agency with the mission to improve the quality of life in North Carolina by creating opportunities that promote economic development, stimulate learning, preserve the state’s history, spark creativity, and conserve the state’s natural heritage. For more information, please visit dnrc.nc.gov or call (919) 814-6800.

Awards Nomination Process

Nomination Guidelines: Phase 1

- Nominations must be received or postmarked on or before **April 1, 2025**.
- Nominations will be accepted by mail, delivery, or e-mail.
- Nominations may be made by anyone, including oneself.
- An individual or organization may make multiple nominations during the same year.
- Posthumous nominations will not be accepted.
- The identities of all nominees shall remain confidential.

Nomination Package: Phase 2

If nominee is selected, a nomination package should contain the following materials:

REQUIRED

- ✓ Nomination Form
- ✓ Cover Letter & 3 Support Letters
- ✓ Nominee's CV or Bio

RECOMMENDED

- ✓ Additional Support Letters
- ✓ Articles, Photographs & Publications
- ✓ Examples of Work

- Please submit six (6) copies of the complete nomination package.
- When submitting books or other media, please note that they will only be shared with the entire Committee for advance review if enough copies are received; otherwise, they will be held on file until the Committee gathers to meet.
- Nominators will be notified that the nomination package has been received.
- Nomination packages for nominees not selected in the current year will be kept on file and considered one (1) additional year. If the nominee isn't selected in the second year, a new, updated nomination package will be required for the nominee to be considered in a future awards cycle. Nominations may be carried over to the following year at the request of the Committee. Past nomination materials will not be returned nor retained.

Mail	Delivery	Online
N.C. Awards Committee 4601 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-4600	N.C. Awards Committee 109 East Jones Street, Suite 315 Raleigh, NC 27601	dn-cr.nc.gov/programs-services/north-carolina-awards

For more information, please contact Beth Carpenter at (919) 814-6756 or beth.carpenter@dn-cr.nc.gov.

Awards Selection Process

Awards Cycle At-A-Glance

Call for Nominations	Early 2025	Statewide distribution of press releases announcing the awards nomination process
Nomination Deadline	April 1, 2025	Deadline for nominations to be postmarked or received by the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
Committee Review	Spring 2025	Independent review of the nominations by the members of the Awards Committee
Selection & Notification	Summer 2025	Meeting of the Awards Committee to select recipients; phone calls to winning nominees and written notification to all nominators
Awards Ceremony	Fall 2025	Presentation of the awards by the Governor of North Carolina at a special ceremony

Awards Review

Awards recipients are chosen by the North Carolina Awards Committee, a selection committee of five (5) members appointed by the Governor. The Committee reviews the nominations and may select one or more nominees in each of the four (4) categories. At the Committee's discretion, a nominee may be moved to a different category than originally nominated. Factors considered in the selection process include:

- Span and scope of career
- Voluntary public service
- Legacy of work
- Current projects
- Awards and honors

Awards Statutes

- Annual awards are not to exceed six (6) in number.
- Awards may be made annually to native-born North Carolinians, living outside of North Carolina, for preeminent accomplishment in no more than two (2) of the fields.
- No award shall be made in any field unless the selection committee deems the recognized accomplishment to be outstanding in merit, value, and distinction.



2025 North Carolina Awards Nomination

Submission Deadline: April 1, 2025

Please select the category for which the nominee should be considered:

- Fine Arts
 Literature
 Public Service
 Science

Nominee Information

Title	Full Name			Date of Birth	
Address		City	State	Zip	County of Residence
Work Phone Number	Home Phone Number		E-mail Address		

Nominee must be: Born in North Carolina **and/or** Current resident of North Carolina

In the space below, please provide the top five (5) reasons nominated, including the nominee's achievements.

Nominator Information

Name			E-mail Address		
Address	City	State	Zip	Phone Number	

To be considered for the 2025 N.C. Awards, the nomination form must be received or postmarked on or before April 1, 2025

MAIL	DELIVERY	ONLINE
N.C. Awards Committee 4601 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-4600	N.C. Awards Committee 109 East Jones Street, Suite 315 Raleigh, NC 27601	dn-cr.nc.gov/programs-services/north-carolina-awards

For more information, please contact Beth Carpenter at (919) 814-6756 or beth.carpenter@dn-cr.nc.gov.