

Vermont Folklife Center
and
Vermont Life Magazine

2010 Governor's Heritage Award Nominations

HERITAGE AWARD PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Purpose:

To recognize exemplary Vermonters whose work as artists or educators builds links to Vermont's rich and diverse cultural heritage.

Categories:

PLACE-BASED EDUCATOR – A person who is a dynamic teacher and employs the methods of place-based education to engage students with the culture and history of their community in positive and innovative ways.

TRADITIONAL ARTIST – A person who carries on a time-honored artistic tradition that linked to family, community, or regional culture.

Nomination Process:

Nomination forms are available online at www.vermontfolklifecenter.org and can be requested by phone and mail. Anyone may submit a nomination. For profiles of past years' awardees go to www.vermontfolklifecenter.org. Nominations are reviewed by a committee that includes representatives of the Vermont Folklife Center and Vermont Life Magazine.

Deadline:

Nominations can be submitted online by e-mailing them to info@vermontfolklifecenter.org or they can be mailed to the Vermont Folklife Center, 88 Main Street, Middlebury, VT 05753. The deadline for submissions is April 16 (e-mail receipt or postmark).

Award Event:

This year's awardees will be honored in a ceremony at the Vermont Statehouse in mid-May, 2010 when Governor Douglas will present the Heritage Award commendations.

Definitions:

Heritage refers to the sense of history, shared values, and common cultural traditions that bind communities together.

Place-based education is the process of using the local community and environment as a

starting point to teach concepts in language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, and other subjects across the curriculum. Place-based education increases academic achievement, helps students develop stronger ties to their community, enhances students' appreciation for the natural world, and creates a heightened commitment to serving as active, contributing citizens. FOR THIS AWARD we focus on educators working in *language arts, social studies, history, and English* who emphasize hands-on, community-based learning experiences.

Traditional arts are expressions of shared identity within a family, community, regional, tribal, ethnic, occupational or religious group. These arts reflect the values and aesthetics of the group that practices them. They are passed from generation to generation in an informal face-to-face setting rather than through formal classes. The traditional arts include performing arts such as music and dance, craft arts such as basketmaking or quilting, occupational trades such as stone carving and blacksmithing, and ceremonial arts related to religion, the seasons, or life cycles.