McCormick Theological Seminary Alumni Awards

Distinguished Alumnus/a Award

HISTORY
In 1976 the Board of Trustees established the Distinguished Alumnus/a award:

This award is presented to an alumnus/a in recognition of his or her distinguished contribution to the ministry of the church. The award is open to all, without regard to age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, denomination, form of ministry, length of service or public fame. Rather, the emphasis will be on quality and significance of exceptional contribution to the ministry of Jesus Christ.

ELIGIBILITY
This award is given to living graduates and cannot be awarded posthumously. Further, retired presidents and professors are not eligible to receive the award for five years after leaving the Seminary. Only alumni can nominate, though anyone can be asked to submit a letter of recommendation.

CRITERIA
The candidate for Distinguished Alumnus or Alumna:

• Has graduated from McCormick Theological Seminary.
• Has made an exceptional contribution in ministry, making and strengthening the connection between the local congregation and the world;
• Demonstrates distinct leadership abilities and discernment, exhibiting concern not only for self but is a witness for others with a true sense of call in a specific time and place;
• Leaves a lasting legacy in his or her work that has an impact on those near as well as upon the larger church;
• Represents McCormick’s commitment to preparation for ministry, including ministry in a diverse and global context;
• Has been effectively and thoroughly represented by the person(s) making the nomination, such that the selection committee has in hand a clear biography of the nominee, a definitive letter of advocacy, letters of recommendation and accurate contact information.
Rising Star Award

HISTORY

In 2021, the McCormick Alumni/ae Council voted to begin awarding the Rising Star Award. This award is presented to an alumnus/a in recognition of faithful contribution to ministry in Church and Society. This award is open to alum who have graduated within the past ten years, without regard to age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, denomination, form of ministry or public fame. The award can include specialized ministries of chaplaincy, pastoral ministry, social service, community organizing, social justice, advocacy, and education.

ELIGIBILITY

This award is given to living graduates and cannot be awarded posthumously. The candidate must be a recent graduate of the Seminary - within the last ten years. Only alumni can nominate, though anyone can be asked to submit a letter of recommendation. The criteria for the Rising Star Award follows:

CRITERIA

The candidate for Rising Star Award

- Has graduated from the Seminary in the past ten years;
- Has visibly answered the call to leadership, demonstrating dedication to their calling. The award can include specialized ministries of chaplaincy, pastoral ministry, social service, community organizing, social justice, advocacy, and education.
- Models an active spiritual life with an ethic of care and compassion.
- Has retained a strong alliance with the Seminary, one that enhances McCormick’s impact on future generations of students.
- Demonstrates faithful leadership, one that strengthens the connection between Church and Society. Demonstrates leadership and giving back to the community.
- Has been effectively and thoroughly represented by the person(s) making the nomination, such that the selection committee has in hand a clear biography of the nominee, a definitive letter of advocacy, letters of recommendation and accurate contact information.
- Note: Receiving this award does not prevent a future nomination for the Distinguished Alumnus/a Award.
NOMINATION AND SELECTION PROCESS
(Same process for both Awards)

The Alumni/ae Council, on behalf of the Alumni/ae Association, carefully reviews all nomination materials it receives so that it can make its recommendation to the spring meeting of the Board of Trustees, which officially names the Distinguished Alumnus/a and the recipient of the Rising Star Award.

The Alumni/ae Council will actively seek nominees for the awards, as early as McCormick Days of the preceding year. At times, the Council itself may identify alumni/ae whom they would suggest as nominees; however, the Council believes McCormick’s alumni/ae, across the world, are the best source for nominees. In addition, in years where there are multiple nominees, those not chosen will be kept for consideration in future years.

The Alumni/ae Council considers nominations based on the criteria listed above. The Council emphasizes the importance of a complete nomination, which must include adequate information describing the person’s history and work, as well as at least two letters of recommendation. All information must be submitted to Community Engagement & Alumni Relations. Please be advised that the Council can only review, and make its recommendation to the Board of Trustees based on the materials sent to them. Therefore, a careful, thoughtful and complete nomination is most helpful in the selection process.

DEADLINE FOR CONSIDERATION

Using the form included with this packet, please submit all nominations and other requested materials so everything is received no later than Friday, April 15, 2022. Return the form to:

Community Engagement & Alumni Relations
McCormick Theological Seminary
5460 South University Avenue
Chicago, IL 60615

Via Email: alumrelations@mccormick.edu

Questions? Call us at 773.947.6322 or email alumrelations@mccormick.edu
We will notify you as to whether your candidate is being placed in nomination.

PRESENTATION OF THE AWARDS
McCORMICK DAYS, OCTOBER 2022

The Distinguished Alumnus/a Award and the Rising Star Award will be presented during McCormick Days.
The following persons have received the Distinguished Alumnus/a award:

1977     Paul Calvin Payne
1978     Kenneth G. Neigh (B.D., 1936)
          William Keesecker (M.Div., 1943)
1979     Marshall Scott (B.D., 1934)
          Harold Blake Walker (B.D., 1932)
1980     Simon Scott
          Frank Cross (B.D., 1946)
1981     Paul Wright (B.D., 1922)
          Robert Swanson (B.D., 1941)
1982     George Hughes (B.D., 1932)
          Arthur Miller
1983     Lois Armentrout
1984     Alexander Sharp (B.D., 1927)
1985     Henry Jones
1986     Howard Rice (B.D., 1956)
          Ralph Waldo Lloyd
1987     Maurice McCrackin (Diploma, 1930)
1988     Raymond Bowden (B.D., 1952)
1989     Lucetta Mowry
1990     Dennis Benson (B.D., 1962)
          John Corbitt (DMin, 1979)
1991     Dale Robb (B.D., 1946)
          Jack Stotts (B.D., 1957)
1992     Joreen Jarrell (M.A.C.E., 1952)
          Dirk Ficca (M.Div., 1981)
1993     James Hine (M.Div., 1936)
          Hedwig & Robert Lodwick (B.D., 1952)
1994     Thomas Dietrich (B.D., 1958)
          Mary Duckert (M.A., 1953)
1995     Jon L. Regier (B.D., 1947)
          Rafael Sanchez, Jr. (B.D., 1956)
1996     Raymond H. Swartzback (1950)
1997     Robert & Edith Rasmussen (B.D., 1953)
1998     Eugene C. Bay (DMin, 1979)
1999     Phil Tom (M.Div., 1976)
2000     Diana C. Carson (M.A., 1956)
          Charles W. Doak (M.Div., 1956)
2001     Henry W. Andersen (B.D., 1951)
          Thomas J. Behrens (M.Div., 1972)
2002     Clifton Kirkpatrick (DMin, 1981)
2003     William W. & June Rogers (B.D., 1953)
2004     Alden R. Hickman (B.D., 1963)
2005     Tim & Beth Hart-Andersen (M.Div., 1984)
2006     Edward F. Campbell (B.D., 1956)
2008     Judy Lee Hay (M.Div., 1971)
2009     G. Daniel Little (B.D., 1954)
2010     Michael McConnell (M.Div., 1971)
2011     Paul C. Holinger (M.Div., 1971)
          R.J. Ross (M.Div., 1971)
2012     Tricia Dykers Koenig (M. Div., 1980)
2013     Wayne Boulton (M. Div., 1967)
          Carol Wehrheim (M.A. 1964)
2015     Pauline Coffman (M.A. 1964)
          Trey Hammond (M.Div. 1980)
2016     Leon Finney, Jr (DMin, 1990)
2017     Kenneth Lehman (B.S. 1953)
2018     Delois Brown – Daniels (DMin, 2013)
2019     Sharon Ellis Davis (DMin, 1995)
2020     Nayoung Ha (MAT5, 2007)
2021     David Barnhart (M.Div., 2005)
☐ Distinguished Alumnus/a
☐ Rising Star Award

All materials must be received by: Friday, April 15, 2022

Name of Nominating Alumnus/a __________________________ Class/Degree __________
Address of Nominating Alumnus/a __________________________ __________________________
City/State __________________________ Zip Code __________
Preferred Phone: (___) ________________ E-mail address: ________________________

To nominate an Alumnus/a, please provide the following information:

Name of Nominee __________________________ Class/Degree __________
Address of Nominee __________________________ __________________________
City/State __________________________ Zip Code __________
Preferred Phone: (___) ________________ E-mail address: ________________________

1. What has the nominee done to distinguish him/herself since graduating from McCormick?
   Guided by the Criteria for each Award, please attach an in-depth description of the history and work of your nominee. In addition, please include a curriculum vitae or resume and a list of the positions the person has held and / or where s/he has served.
2. Please invite at least two other persons to submit personal letters of endorsement, and please note below from whom they are expected. They must be received by Friday, April 15, 2022. (Note: It is not the responsibility of the Alumni/ae Office to contact these persons if their endorsements are not received.)
The Committee will receive letters of endorsement from the following persons:

Reference 1 __________________________ (___) ________________
   __________________________ __________________________
   Street Address       City/State     Zip

Reference 2. __________________________ (___) ________________
   __________________________ __________________________
   __________________________ __________________________
   Street Address       City/State     Zip