

2009 Communicator of Achievement Competition

The Communicator of Achievement, National Federation of Press Women's highest honor, is given to the person nominated by his or her state affiliate for highest achievement in the communications field and service to the affiliate, NFPW and the community. Each state affiliate may nominate one member for this honor. All nominees must be living members in good standing for at least two years in an affiliate and NFPW. Nominations packets should be sent to the contest director, postmarked by May 1, 2009. Nomination packages must follow strictly the format guidelines.

Communicator of Achievement Selection Criteria

Each affiliate may choose one COA nominee. A previous nominee can be named by an affiliate again, as long as he or she has not been honored as NFPW's national COA winner. All nominees must be living members in good standing for at least two years in an affiliate and NFPW. To check on a member's status, please e-mail presswomen@aol.com.

Judging Criteria

Nominations will be judged on these three elements:

- 60% of the judging is based on professional achievement. All nominees should have high professional qualifications and achievements in their areas of the communications field (for example, public relations, newspapers, magazines, advertising, freelance writing, editing, electronic media, or any field that has qualified the nominee for NFPW membership).
- 20% of the judging is based on community service. Each nominee should have made some impact on the world beyond her or his profession — some contribution to humanity. That impact or contribution may be through the profession or beyond it.
- 20% of the judging is based on NFPW and affiliate service. Each nominee should have made a definite and important contribution to her or his affiliate and to NFPW.

Entry Information

Each nomination must include 2 copies of the official entry form (This is a change from previous years when one copy was required for each set of nomination papers.) The nomination papers for each nominee, which will be forwarded to the judges, must be no more than a total of nine pages. Information must be neatly typed or copied, on one side only of 8½-by-11-inch white paper. Include any special endorsements and work samples within those nine pages. Samples can be no larger than 8½ by 11 inches. Samples may be photo-copied at a reduced percentage to fit more than one per page, as long as they are readable. Each entry should contain:

Hard copies (Printed on Paper):

2 copies of the official entry form.

1 copy of the 150-word bio for *AGENDA*.

1 copy of the 75-word bio for the conference program.

4 copies of the nomination packets (each secured with a binder clip, please do not staple, put in envelopes or plastic folders, just secure each packet with binder clip) to include (up to 9 pages) Please do not exceed the number specified for each of the requested areas:

4 pages of narrative about the nominee.

1 page of vital information divided among professional, community and NFPW/affiliate service.

2 pages of endorsements.

2 pages of samples of nominee's work. If the nominee is in the electronic media, a 10-minute DVD or CD will replace the two pages of samples of nominee's work.

Do not send irreplaceable items; none of the entry materials will be returned.

These materials should be sent to Eva Marie Pearson, 219 Monk Road, Pine Bluff, AR 71602, along with a \$50 check made payable to NFPW. All entries should be postmarked by May 1, 2009.

E-mailed

These materials should be e-mailed to the contest director:

1 copy of the 150-word bio for *AGENDA*.

1 copy of the 75-word bio for the conference program.

1 copy of the color photograph in jpeg format at least 150 resolution.

These materials should be e-mailed to Eva Marie Pearson at epearson1960@yahoo.com by May 1, 2009.

Other Requirements

An entry fee of \$50 must accompany the entry form for each nominee. Make checks payable to NFPW. This fee underwrites the competition expenses, including the cost of mementos for all the affiliate nominees and the winner's award.

In addition to the nomination packet materials, please include a 150-word bio of the candidate, which will be used in *AGENDA* and a 75-word bio that will be included in the conference program. Both should be e-mailed to Eva Marie Pearson (epearson1960@yahoo.com). Both will be subject rewrite in the interest of consistency, however, they will be used to determine which information to emphasize in the short biography that will appear in or other print or online publications.

If you would like confirmation that the materials have arrived, please place this request on a separate piece of paper (8 1/2 by 11 inches), along with an e-mail address.

The Deadline

All entries must be postmarked by May 1, 2009. Before mailing, please consult the COA Checklist/2009 for a complete and succinct list of nomination packet requirements. If you have any questions, e-mail epearson1960@yahoo.com or presswomen@aol.com or call Eva Marie Pearson at (870) 692-2978.

The Honor

Traditionally, each affiliate honors its nominee in its own way. All nominees for NFPW Communicator of Achievement are recognized individually at a banquet at the annual conference where the COA chosen for that year also is announced.

Send entries to:

Eva Marie Pearson
219 Monk Road
Pine Bluff, AR 71602