

Awards and Recognition - News and Notes for Next Year

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Congratulations to everyone who applied for an award. You and your teams have accomplished so much in your programming during the most challenging of times for all of us, as we continue to navigate a pandemic. Award announcements for individuals and teams are being emailed. Thank you to everyone for the time and energy spent on your applications. If you did not receive an award, we encourage you to consider the judges' constructive feedback and consider applying again next year.



We appreciate all the judges and the judging alternates who stepped up when "life happened" for some of the original judges. The judges had some difficult decisions to make, and they made thoughtful comments on your applications. We had many tie scores, so judging was not complete until all the ties were broken, and the winners were selected.

As I reflect on year 2 in my role as Vice President of Awards and Recognition, I have some suggestions to share. I think these will help future applicants, judges and the next person in the Vice President for Awards and Recognition role.

- When applying, read and follow the directions carefully. Check out the scoring rubric in the back of the manual, which the judges use to score your applications.
- Let your team members know you included them on your application. We had some surprised judges who needed to opt out of judging when they learned they were on a team they were assigned to judge.
- Be concise with your words. We had several applicants who sent five single-spaced pages of narrative, instead of five double-spaced pages. That meant their application had twice as much content as was the requirement. In the interest of fairness, the judges were instructed to judge accordingly.
- Please help future judges by labeling the categories in your application narrative according to the directions in the awards manual.
- Be aware of the judging deadlines. If you agree to judge, be sure that you have the time to complete your task in the timeframe. Please plan your time accordingly. If you know that you will not be able to complete the task, let the VP know at least a week before the deadline.

Finally, I thank Will Ferguson again for his help in completing a monumental task in a fairly short time frame. We look forward to celebrating all your successes at our conference, whether or not you receive a certificate. You are all doing great work in Family and Consumer Sciences, and you are making a difference.