

## **PETER C. O'BRIEN HUMANITARIAN AWARD**

This award was established by the Massachusetts Recreation and Park Association's Executive Board in 1980, in memory of Peter C. O'Brien of M.E. O'Brien & Sons, Medfield, MA, and a long time member of our association. The Peter C. O'Brien Humanitarian Award is the highest honor bestowed by MRPA. To be considered, recipients must have been a member of the state association and have furthered the leisure services field in this region. Broadly developed criteria for this award indicate that the MRPA Board wants to recognize leaders, friends, suppliers, professionals and advocates in the recreation movement across the Commonwealth.

## **COMMUNITY BRANCH PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD** **OR** **THERAPEUTIC BRANCH PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Massachusetts Recreation and Park Association recognizes the importance of honoring certain of its community recreation and therapeutic recreation professional members who have rendered outstanding service to this association and to the community/therapeutic recreation profession. The candidate must have served in at least one of the following capacities:

- ✍ Elected office in MRPA or NRPA or NTRS
- ✍ Served on a committee of MRPA or NRPA or NTRS or NCTRC
- ✍ Made presentations to various communities or groups
- ✍ Published articles in newspapers, magazines, or professional journals

## **THE "OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD"**

The candidate must be a current member of the Massachusetts Recreation and Park Association.

The candidate should be a Junior or Senior student or in last year if attending a Community College.

The candidate must hold an office or be an active participant on a Recreation and Leisure organization at the College.

The candidate must demonstrate serious interest in pursuing a career in the field of Parks, Recreation, and Leisure Service or Therapeutic Recreation.

## **NEW PROFESSIONAL AWARD**

MRPA wishes to recognize a new professional who has been in the field less than 10 years and has made outstanding contributions to the profession in the past year. Qualification for the New Professional of the Year Award: **Membership:** Must be a current member of MRPA. **Education:** The candidate should have an under graduate or graduate degree in a recreation/parks or related field. **Experience:** Two or more years experience in Massachusetts and not more than 10 years over all experience in the field of Parks and Recreation field. **Employment:** Must be currently employed in the Parks and Recreation Field. **Service:** The candidate demonstrated some outstanding service to the field this past year, making a contribution to their community, organization, or the MRPA.

## **LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD**

MRPA will be accepting submissions for our Legislator of the Year Award. This award will be given to Senators and/or Representatives that have displayed dedication and advocacy on behalf of Parks and Recreation. In order to have your legislator be considered, please submit a brief bio and include specifically how long this legislator has been in office, what town and cities he/she represents and why he/she should be selected. Other pertinent information should include specific legislation they have sponsored and co-sponsored that has directly affected our profession.

## **SPECIAL CITATION AWARD**

This award could be presented to an individual “group” and/or organization that have in some special way helped in promoting leisure services within the state. An example of what might qualify would be a TV station that has gone beyond the normal coverage of an event or has hosted an event that highlights the impact of recreation programming upon the community. If you feel that you have someone whom you want to nominate for this award, please write a brief narrative on the reasons you feel they are worthy of this special citation and submit it with the completed award nomination form.

## **AGENCY AWARDS**

The State Conference Committee recognizes the importance of acknowledging those cities, towns, and state agencies, along with the private and non-profit agencies, which have created innovative concepts and ideas within three different categories. This year, the state agencies and state parks will be judged separately from the local parks and recreation agencies.

### **CATEGORIES:**

- ✍ Design of Facility – must be built or in the process of being built.
- ✍ Maintenance Innovation – a new technique developed, personnel scheduling/equipment use, maintenance-management master plan recently developed.
- ✍ Program Outreach – Program over and above regular programming that demonstrates a benefit to the community/facility.

For questions regarding Award Nominations, contact:

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