

# Texas Wesleyan University, School of Arts and Letters

## Distinguished Alumni Award Criteria

### Purpose and Philosophy

The School of Arts and Letters at Texas Wesleyan established the Distinguished Alumni Awards Program in 2013. The purpose of this annual Distinguished Alumni Award is to recognize outstanding alumni for their individual achievements, contributions to their fields or professions, service to their community, and demonstrated loyalty to Texas Wesleyan University. The Distinguished Alumni Committee will work with the Alumni Office to coordinate the recipient's visit and installation celebration.

During the inaugural year (2014), one alumnus or alumna from among the Performing Arts and one from the Humanities will be honored with this award.

### Eligibility

- ❖ The recipient must be a graduate of Texas Wesleyan University, from a degree program in the School of Arts.
- ❖ Former students whose only academic experience in the School of Arts and Letters was in certificate courses, noncredit courses, or continuing education courses are not eligible.
- ❖ Current university faculty or current staff members are not eligible.
- ❖ Current members of the Texas Wesleyan Board of Trustees and Alumni Board are not eligible during their term of service.
- ❖ Candidates for public office are not eligible.
- ❖ Candidates must have graduated from Texas Wesleyan University no fewer than 10 years prior to year of nomination.
- ❖ Self-nominations will not be considered.

### Selection Criteria

Qualified candidates for the Distinguished Alumni Award must have proven accomplishments in the following areas:

- ❖ **Professional Attainment and Achievement** – Candidates should have attained prominence in his or her field or profession. Their work should have a demonstrated impact.
- ❖ **Community Service/ Outstanding Service to Industry or Profession** – Candidates should have demonstrated outstanding voluntary service to his or her community or outstanding service to his or her industry or profession.
- ❖ **Texas Wesleyan University Loyalty and Support** – Candidates should have demonstrated a pride in their alma mater through contributed time, talent, and/or resources. Their interest in and loyalty to Texas Wesleyan University should be evident.
- ❖ **Integrity and Character** - Candidate must have the highest standard of personal integrity and character.

### **Method of Nomination**

- ❖ Nomination forms are available on the School of Arts and Letters website at <http://txwes.edu/academics/artsletters/>.
- ❖ Nominations may be made by any faculty member in the School of Arts and Letters.
- ❖ An individual can only receive the award one time.
- ❖ In the event that a candidate is not selected as an honoree, his or her nomination packet will be held for consideration for two additional years.
- ❖ The name of the nominator will not be disclosed without permission.
- ❖ Nominators must submit a completed nomination packet (see below).

### **Nomination Packet Criteria**

Qualified candidates for the Distinguished Alumni Awards should have nomination packets that include the following:

- ❖ Completed nomination form
- ❖ Biographical information
- ❖ Newspaper and magazine articles if applicable (may be downloaded from the Internet)
- ❖ Awards or certificates of achievement if applicable
- ❖ Other items of interest

The packet should be submitted to the Dean of the School of Arts and Letters and then passed on to the Distinguished Alumni Award Committee for consideration.

### **Honoree Selection**

The Distinguished Alumni Committee will use the following guidelines for the Honoree selection:

- ❖ Final award selections are made by the Committee with affirmation from Arts and Letters faculty.
- ❖ After the inaugural year, only one candidate will be selected for the Award.

### **Timeline**

11/01 – 12/04	Nominations will be accepted
Week of 12/09	Distinguished Alumni Committee will meet to review nominations and pick the award winner
Week of 01/13/14	Arts and Letters faculty vote
Early February	Distinguished Alumni Award announced
Spring 2014	Presentation of Award (Preferably during Reunion Weekend or University College Day)