

THE DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD – IBMA

(Criteria Revised April 2010)

PURPOSE

The IBMA's Distinguished Achievement Award program exists to honor those in bluegrass music who have:

1. Proven to be forerunners in their particular field of endeavor, and/or
2. Fostered bluegrass music's image with developments that will broaden the music's recognition and accessibility.

The awards extended to individuals for their contributions shall fall into specific categories and are especially appropriate when they provide acclaim for those not recognized by other IBMA Awards categories.

CRITERIA AND CATEGORIES OF RECOGNITION

Candidates for the Distinguished Achievement Award should be judged on the degree to which they have contributed to or influenced bluegrass music in general or to a specific part of the industry. Their contributions should be unique given the relative period of time in which they were made and should embody the spirit of one who "pioneers" or open new possibilities for the music. The recognition is especially appropriate where the award provides acclaim for those not recognized by other IBMA Awards categories. The selection committee is also urged to consider significant recent influences on the music as well as historic ones.

The selection committee is required to spread the recognition afforded by the Distinguished Achievement Award to the various fields of endeavor which have an impact on bluegrass music. Each year the committee will achieve the awards purpose by recognizing one individual from each of the following four categories except that it can recognize two in the "General" category (a total of five recipients) whose contributions fit the above criteria.

MUSIC - Artists, Composers, Side/Session Musicians.

MEDIA - Journalists, Broadcasters (Radio or Television), Photographers, Historians/Folklorists, Publishers

BUSINESS - Promoters, Music Publishers, Agents, Recording Manufacturers and Distributors, Recording Engineers, Luthiers.

GENERAL - International Organizers, Association Leaders, Friends of the Music, Philanthropists, Arts Administrators, Teachers/Educators, and other Innovators.

SELECTION PROCESS

The Selection Committee, comprised of five members selected by the IBMA Board of Directors, shall actively seek potential honorees and solicit candidate's names from the IBMA membership. The committee shall have full power and authority to judge whether an individual meets the standards for receiving the Distinguished Achievement Award and may reject any candidate without having to state the reasons for so doing.

From recommendations solicited and received, the selection committee shall compile a list of potential candidates (including recommendations from the selection committee itself). The committee shall convene at an appropriate time to review all candidates and shall select by majority vote, at least one person in each of the four categories to be recipients of the award for any given year.