

AFA Award Descriptions & Criteria

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Sutherland Outstanding Volunteer Award

This award was established in 2003 and re-named for Shelley Sutherland upon her retirement in 2011. The purpose is to annually recognize outstanding volunteer service by an Association member in an official AFA volunteer role. The individual has devoted significant time and energy supporting Association initiatives or efforts through their volunteer role. They are consistent and reliable, communicative, and committed to the values and mission of the Association as demonstrated through their service.

Dr. Kent L. Gardner Award

This award is presented to a senior college/university administrator (president/chancellor, provost, senior student affairs officer, etc.) who has demonstrated a long-term commitment to the advancement of fraternities and sororities. The individual should have demonstrated a long-standing record of support and advocacy for the fraternal experiences on the campus on which the individual has worked, commitment to fostering positive change in the fraternity/sorority community, building partnerships within higher education and the interfraternal community, and mentoring both new and seasoned professionals.

Criteria:

- Nominees may not be a member of the Board of Directors or the Awards and Recognition Committee
- Previous recipients are not eligible to receive this award again
- A senior college/university administrator (president/Chancellor, provost, senior student affairs officer, etc.) who has demonstrated a long term commitment to the advancement fraternities and sororities
- Demonstrated commitment to building partnerships in higher education and the interfraternal community
- Long-standing record of support and advocacy for the fraternal experience on the campuses on which they have worked
- Mentored both new and seasoned professionals

Note: Nominations will be active for three (3) years unless withdrawn by the nominator.

Jack L. Anson Award

This award was established in 1982 in honor of the retiring executive director of the National Interfraternity Conference. This award is presented to an individual not employed at an institution of higher education who has demonstrated a long-term commitment to the fraternity/sorority community beyond the individual's respective organization. The individual should have assisted in developing partnerships with higher education and the interfraternal community, fostered positive change to advance the fraternal movement, and served as a role model for students and professionals.

Criteria:

- Nominees may not be a member of the Board of Directors or the Awards and Recognition Committee
- Previous recipients are not eligible to receive the award again
- An individual not employed at an institution of higher education who has demonstrated a long-term commitment to the fraternal movement beyond the individual's respective organization
- Assisted in developing partnerships with higher education and the interfraternal community
- Fostered positive change to advance the fraternal movement
- Served as a role model for students and/or professionals

Note: Nominations will be active for three (3) years unless withdrawn by the nominator

Robert H. Shaffer Award

This award is presented to an individual in the field of higher education who has demonstrated a long-term commitment to fraternities and sororities. The individual should have demonstrated a commitment to fostering positive change on college campuses through the advisement of the fraternity/sorority community, building partnerships in higher education and the interfraternal community, had positive and lasting impact on both campuses of employment and the profession of fraternity/sorority advising, and mentoring new and seasoned professionals.

Criteria:

- Nominees may not be a member of the Board of Directors or the Awards and Recognition Committee
- Previous recipients are not eligible to receive this award again

- An individual in the field of higher education who has demonstrated a long-term commitment to fraternities and sororities
- Demonstrated commitment to fostering positive change on college campuses through the advisement of fraternity/sorority communities
- Demonstrated commitment to building partnerships in higher education and the interfraternal community
- Have had positive and lasting impact on both campuses of employment and the profession of fraternity/sorority advising
- Mentored both new and seasoned professionals

Note: Nominations will be active for three (3) years unless withdrawn by the nominator.

Sue Kraft Fussell Distinguished Service Award

This award was created in 1985 and re-named for AFA's second Executive Director, Sue Kraft Fussell, in 2006. The purpose of the award is to recognize individuals who have exhibited outstanding achievements in one or more of the following areas: service to AFA; programming and/or service which reaches beyond the recipient's campus/organization; development and research activities; and/or service to the college and fraternity/sorority communities. Sue Kraft Fussell Distinguished Service Awards will be presented to no more than five members of the Association each year.

Criteria:

- Nominees may not be a member of the Board of Directors or the Awards and Recognition Committee
- Nominees must be Affiliate, Graduate, or Professional members of AFA
- Previous recipients are ineligible
- Demonstrated service to the Association
- Has engaged in programming efforts and/or service which reach beyond their campus/organization
- Has exhibited outstanding achievements in development or research activities
- Demonstrated service to the college/university and/or fraternity/sorority communities

Note: Nominations will be active for three (3) years unless withdrawn by the nominator and self-nominations are accepted.

Gayle Webb New Professional Award

This award was established in 1990 and re-named for AFA's first Executive Director, Gayle Webb, upon her retirement in 1999. The purpose is to annually recognize outstanding contributions to the field of fraternity/sorority advising by one AFA member who is a campus-based professional and one AFA member who is an inter/national organization staff member during the individual's first three years of Association membership (not inclusive of time as a graduate student or inter/national organization consultant). Nominees will be judged on achievements in their professional experience and impact at either a college/university or as part of an inter/national organization staff, contributions to the field of fraternity and sorority advising broadly including Association service, and outstanding projects/program/initiatives implemented during their professional experience. Two awards may be given each year, one to a campus-based professional, and one to a headquarters professional.

Criteria:

- Nominees may not be a member of the Board of Directors or the Awards and Recognition Committee
- Previous recipients are ineligible.
- Demonstrated contributions to the field of fraternity/sorority advising
- Achievements implementing outstanding projects/programs/initiatives
- Demonstrated impact in first three years in a professional role

Note: Self-nominations are accepted. Two letters of support are recommended from the following groups: supervisor, student, or colleague.

INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATION AWARDS

AFA/CoHEASAP Award for Outstanding Alcohol/Other Drug Prevention Program

Originally formed in 1983 as the Inter-Association Task Force for Alcohol/Other Substance Abuse Issues (IATF), CoHEASAP (Coalition of Higher Education Associations for Substance Abuse Prevention) has served as the leading, independent voice on this critical student issue, and has represented a coalition of 20 different higher education associations for over 25 years. Throughout CoHEASAP's history, National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week (NCAAW) has served as one of the most recognized and successful programs sponsored by CoHEASAP. CoHEASAP also sponsored a comprehensive NCAAW awards program with support from the U.S. Department of Education, the beverage industry, and federal and state government partners.

To continue this legacy, the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors is proud to sponsor the AFA/CoHEASAP Award for Outstanding Alcohol/Other Drug Prevention Program. This award annually recognizes an outstanding campus and/or inter/national organization for its efforts in broad-based alcohol/other drug prevention efforts and the impacts they have had.

Two awards will be available for distribution each year; one to a campus and one to an inter/national fraternity/sorority.

Criteria:

Awards will be given from those nominated programs that demonstrate creativity and overall effectiveness in alcohol/other drug abuse awareness and education; or leadership that supports the elimination of high-risk drinking behavior. Programs/events must have occurred in the preceding academic year. This award should focus on the efforts of a campus fraternity/sorority prevention program or inter/national fraternity or sorority. Efforts primarily sponsored and/or organized by partner organizations should not be considered for this award, unless part of an overall prevention effort that was coordinated by the aforementioned groups.

Special consideration will be given to those applications that demonstrate the following:

- Ongoing, comprehensive prevention efforts
- Collaborative partnerships
- Demonstrated program effectiveness (change in culture/behavior)
- Creativity regarding student engagement

Diversity & Social Justice Initiative Award

Established in 1994, this award is presented to an individual, institution, or organization that has contributed significantly to the development of multicultural understanding, diversity education, or social justice initiatives in a college or university fraternity/sorority community or inter/national organization. Criteria for this award include Affiliate, Associate, Graduate, or Professional membership in AFA or institutions/organizations with at least one eligible AFA member and significant involvement in diversity, social justice, and/or multicultural issues.

Special consideration will be given to those applications that demonstrate the following:

- An impact on campus/organizational culture

- Creation of a greater understanding of diversity, social justice, and/or multiculturalism on campus or within the organization
- Initiatives that broadly address differences beyond race or ethnicity

Excellence in Educational Programming Award

The purpose of the Excellence in Educational Programming Award is to recognize new and innovative programs that result in learning or education. Three awards may be presented for educational programming efforts: one to a fraternal organization for efforts directed to undergraduate or alumni members, one to an affiliate or vendor member organization for educational efforts, and one for a campus-based program for new and innovative educational efforts.

Organizations/Campuses may not receive the award more than once for the same program in a three-year cycle.

Criteria:

- Documented learning has occurred as a result of the program
- Demonstrated program effectiveness
- High level of student engagement/interactive learning
- Includes ongoing educational efforts to maintain learning

Outstanding Change Initiative Award

Established in 1996, this award is presented to institutions of higher education, vendor member organizations, and inter/national organizations that have made tremendous progress and improvement in their fraternity/sorority community or organization. The award recognizes major initiatives or long term plans that have led to positive changes within the campus fraternity and sorority community or the inter/national organization and measured improvements, results, and positive outcomes in all or some of the following areas: scholarship, educational programs, leadership development, risk management, collaboration, community engagement, retention, and membership recruitment.

PUBLICATION AWARDS

Essentials Award

Established in 2008, the *Essentials* award seeks to recognize an author or authors who have written an article that is thought provoking, enlightening, and provides relevant and practical ideas to AFA members. To be eligible, articles must be original work and not previously published, must be based on sound professional practice and/or research, and must have been published in *Essentials* between August 2017 and July 2018.

Perspectives Awards

Established in 1988, the *Perspectives* award seeks to recognize those who have written thought provoking articles that are educational and enlightening to the AFA membership. To be eligible, articles must be original work and not previously published, must demonstrate evidence of research and should include relevant and practical ideas to Association members that support the advancement of the fraternal movement, and must have been published in *Perspectives* between Fall 2018 and Summer 2019.

Dr. Charles Eberly Oracle Award

Established in 2006, the *Dr. Charles Eberly Oracle* award seeks to recognize the outstanding written contributions to *Oracle: The Research Journal of the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors* during the past academic year (September - August). Submissions should demonstrate evidence of research and should include relevant and practical ideas to Association members that support the advancement of research within the fraternal movement.