Berkshire Award

In March 2013, the Berkshire Museum launched a program to honor people who live in the greater Berkshires and who have made significant contribution to creating, keeping, or promoting artistic, historical, and natural heritage in the Berkshires. The Berkshire Museum believes the Berkshire Award helps foster a community-wide appreciation for how quality of life is shaped by people, which will also inspire people to play a role in shaping quality of life in the future. The first three Berkshire Award events have been tremendous successes with over 225 people attending each event. Past honorees are listed below.

2013
Crane Family, Berkshire County philanthropists and founders of the Berkshire Museum
Thom Smith, former Berkshire Museum natural science curator
Sandra Newman, founder of Community Access to the Arts (CATA)

2014
Nash Family, local philanthropists
George Wislocki, founder of the Berkshire Natural Resources Council
Frances Jones-Sneed, historian and MCLA Professor

2015
Lila Berle, Farmer and Leader in agriculture, conservation and preservation
Churchill Cotton, Community leader, preservationist and Pittsfield City Councilor
Mary Rentz, Community organizer and promoter of public arts and culture

Berkshire Museum has now begun planning for the Fourth Annual Berkshire Award and seeks nominations from the community for awardees. The awards event is scheduled to take place in March 2016.

Who is eligible for the Berkshire Award?
Individuals living (at the time of nomination) in the greater Berkshires region, who create, keep, or promote our artistic, historical, and natural heritage through their personal or professional activities. These include but are not limited to, visual/performing/literary arts, design, architecture, craftsmanship, education, teaching, research, scholarship, publishing, volunteerism, activism, advocacy, patronage, philanthropy, leadership, conservation/preservation of material culture, buildings and landscapes, and lifeways, among other activities and practices encompassed within our artistic, historic or natural heritage.

Who is not eligible?
- Persons nominating themselves
- Current employees of the Berkshire Museum

To nominate a candidate for the Berkshire Award two documents are required to be prepared and submitted:
1. Berkshire Award Nomination Form (attached)
2. A narrative description (500-word maximum) of why the candidate is nominated
General information for submitting a nomination:

- **NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY BERKSHIRE MUSEUM BY 5 P.M. SEPTEMBER 30, 2015.**
- Nomination forms may be duplicated. Please submit a separate nomination form for each individual being nominated. All nomination materials must be clearly printed or typed. Nomination forms can be e-mailed, mailed, faxed or hand delivered.
- Nomination forms must be accompanied by a narrative summarizing why the candidate is nominated to be recognized with a Berkshire Award (500-word maximum). This is a requirement for a nomination to be considered.
- Receipt of each nomination will be acknowledged via an email from Berkshire Museum.
- All nominations must be complete when submitted. Incomplete nomination packages, self-nominations and nominations by family members will be disqualified. Separate letters, materials and other documents received later under separate cover will not be considered.
- Nominators will not be informed whether or not the package is complete.
- All entries and supplementary materials become the property of Berkshire Museum and will not be returned.
- Please do not call to check on the status of a nomination form. Winners and their nominators will be notified before the Berkshire Award ceremony.
- All decisions of the selection committee are final.
- Berkshire Museum reserves the right to reproduce information from the nomination form for publication.

Submit hard copy or electronic nominations to:
Nina Garlington  
Director of Development  
Berkshire Museum  
39 South Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Fax: 413-443-2135  
garlington@berkshiremuseum.org
2016 BERKSHIRE AWARD Nomination Form
(This form can be duplicated)

Nominee Information:
Dr. ___ Mr. ___ Miss ___ Ms. ___ Mrs. ___

Name: ________________________________________________________________

Street Address: ______________________________________________________

City State Zip: ______________________________________________________

Phone: _____________________________________________________________

Email: _____________________________________________________________

All nominations must be complete. Incomplete nomination packages, self-nominations or nominations from spouses or family members will be disqualified. Nominators will not be notified that packages are incomplete. Letters, materials and other documents received under a separate cover will not be considered.

Qualifications
The nominee must inspire an affirmative answer to the following questions:

a) Will the nominee’s contribution stand the test of time and be remembered 25+ years from now?  
   ___YES ___NO. Please explain.

b) Has the nominee’s achievements contributed significantly to keeping or promoting our artistic, historical and natural heritage through their personal or professional activities?  
   ___YES ___NO. Please explain.

Summary:
In the spaces below, please describe in one sentence the accomplishments for which the nomination is being made. Please also attach a statement (500-word maximum) that describes the nominee’s overall activities.
Nominator Information:

Dr.___ Mr.___ Miss___ Ms.___ Mrs.___

Name:  
_________________________________  ______________________________________

Mail Address:  
_________________________________  ______________________________________

City State Zip:  
_________________________________________________________________

Phone:  
____________________________________________________________________

Email:  
____________________________________________________________________

Verification:
To qualify, the nomination must list at least two references that may be contacted to verify the scope and extent of the nominee’s activities. References should be individuals familiar with the nominee’s accomplishments for which he/she is being nominated. References should not include the nominee, nominator or any person related to the nominee.

Reference Name:  
____________________________________________________________________

Relationship to Nominee:  
____________________________________________________________________

Phone:  
____________________________________________________________________

Email:  
____________________________________________________________________

Reference Name:  
____________________________________________________________________

Relationship to Nominee:  
____________________________________________________________________

Phone:  
____________________________________________________________________

Email:  
____________________________________________________________________

I certify that the contents of this nomination are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

____________________________________________________________________

Nominator’s Signature  Date

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Rcvd_____ Complete_____