

The Herb Society of America

Award Descriptions and Winners by Award

The Herb Society of America, Inc.

Descriptions of Awards

The Herb Society of America is proud to recognize individuals - members and nonmembers alike – who have made substantial contributions to The Society, the public, and the world of herbal knowledge, use and delight. HSA invites its members to help identify those individuals and celebrate their achievements.

The HSA awards are:

The Helen De Conway Little Medal of Honor

This award is given annually at the discretion of the Awards Committee to honor someone who has made outstanding contributions to The Herb Society of America or to the world of horticulture in general.

The Nancy Putnam Howard Award for Excellence in Horticulture

This award was established in 1985 to honor Nancy Howard, a very active member of the board of The Society. She devoted a great deal of time to the perpetuation of proper nomenclature. The Gertrude B. Foster Award for Excellence in Herbal Literature This award was established in 1998. The award honors those who have published a scholarly study of herbs. The author must be living at the time of the nomination. Selection of this award is done with the assistance of the Botany and Horticulture Chairperson, the Curator of The National Herb Garden and the Editor of The Herbarist.

The Gertrude B. Foster Award for Excellence in Herbal Literature

The intent of this award is to encourage accurate herbal information and recognize outstanding researchers, educators, and authors who exhibit exceptional scholarship in a published non-fiction book, which serves to inspire the “use and delight” of herbs.

The Joanna McQuail Reed Award for the Artistic Use of Herbs

This award was established in 2003 to recognize those who, like Joanna Reed, are able to express the “delight” of herbs through their artistic and creative abilities, whether it is through original needlework, painting, photography, garden design, culinary or any other art form. The nominee must be living at the time of the nomination.

The Elizabeth Crisp Rea Award

Betty's including in her meetings with garden designers, congressmen, attorneys, and fund raisers the presentation of her signature “tussie mussies” contributed significantly to the accomplishment of the goal to provide financial support for the National Herb Garden with the organization of The Friends of the National Arboretum. This award will be given to an individual who has worked with determination to create and/or preserve a public garden and in so doing promotes herbs for "use and delight."

The Madalene Hill Award for Excellence in Herbal Education

This award is to honor those who have a passion for promoting the knowledge, “use and delight” of herbs through educational activities at any level. The recipient must be living at the time of the nomination and can be either a professional or non-professional but must show a great zeal for sharing their passion for herbs with the public.

The Mighty Oak Award for Excellence in Conservation

The recipient of this award will have made notable achievements in conservation efforts and will have demonstrated skill and dedication in the areas of using native plants, including plants not commonly known for their herbal attributes, and other conservation areas such as habitat preservation, water usage, and or pollinator protection through hands-on demonstrations, printed materials, and lectures, using herbs to demonstrate conservation methods to preserve and enhance life.

Certificate of Achievement

This award was developed in 1976 to honor those people, members of The Society or not, who have made significant contributions in various ways to the work of The Society or the world of herbs. No more than three certificates may be given in a year.

Certificate of Appreciation

This award was designed in 1982 to recognize those who have contributed a great deal personally to The Society or to those who have admirably completed a special assignment or project. No more than three certificates may be given in a year.

Award of Merit

1952 Frances Ropes Williams
1953 Martha Genung Stearns
1953 Adeline P. Cole
1954 Dr. Edgar Anderson
1954 Elizabeth Remson Van Brunt
1955 Dr. Elmer D. Merrill
1983 Carlos Burr Dawes

Medal of Honor

1956 Edna K. Neugebauer
1957 Madeleine Harding
1958 Dorothy Bovee Jones
1959 Dorcas Brigham
1960 Noreen Sheridan Capen
1961 Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt
1962 Edith Foster Farwell
1963 Hester Taylor Mettler Crawford
1964 Mary Lines Wellman
1965 Etheljane McD. Schetky

Helen de Conway Little Medal of Honor

1966 Olive Willett Smith
1967 Frances Ellis Price
1968 Edna Horton Cashmore
1969 Sidney Rebert Duerr
1970 Elizabeth Dibble Rollins
1971 Milfred Pfau Ferguson
1972 Florence Follwell Davis
1973 Elsetta Gilchrist Barnes
1974 Helen M. Whitman
1975 Gertrude Bates Foster
1976 Susan Westcott Handy
1977 Minnie Worthen Muenscher
1978 Madalene Louise Hill
1979 Elizabeth Crisp Rea
1980 Audrey H. O'Connor
1981 Caroline Cadwalader
1982 Nelle Neff
1983 Priscilla Sawyer Lord
1984 Joanna McQuail Reed
1985 Faith H. Swanson and Virginia B. Rady
1986 Sister Mary Margaret

1988 Betty Hippler Stevens
1990 Arthur O. Tucker
1991 Elizabeth Barrick Neavill
1992 Elizabeth Field Bryce
1994 Henrietta Gould Truitt
1995 Genevieve Gleason Jyurovat
1996 Jamie Barrow
1997 Sylvester March
1998 Betty Muench
1999 Flavia Redelmeier
2000 James E. Simon, Ph.D.
2001 Janet van Nostrand
2002 Caroline W. Amidon
2003 Mary Sue Trevarrow
2004 Nancy Comey Stevenson
2005 Amy McKay Core
2006 Joyce E. Brobst
2007 Mary Bowler (Tunkie) Miller
2008 Ruth Rouleau
2009 Kirti Mathura
2010 Mary Remmel Wohlleb
2011 Yvonne Snyder
2012 Ruth Smith
2013 Lorraine Kiefer
2015 Pat Kenny
2016 Kathy Schlosser
2017 Sarah Liberta
2018 Susan Betz
2019 Jo Sellers
2020 Lois Sutton, PhD.
2021 Sara Holland
2023 Ginny Miller
2024 Kim Labash

Nancy Putnam Howard Award for
Excellence in Horticulture

1986 Holly Harmar Shimizu
1987 Elizabeth Dibble Rollins
1988 Janet Oberliesen
1989 Joy Logee Martin
1991 Cyrus T. Hyde
1992 Elise Felton
1993 Rexford Talbert
1994 Yvonne Synder
1995 Joanna McQuail Reed
1996 Janet Gilliher Walker
1997 Madalene Hill
1998 Arthur O. Tucker

1999 Elisabeth S. Bruch
2000 Jane L. and J. Lee Taylor
2001 Elaine W. Jackson
2002 Rebecca H. Talbot
2003 Barbara J. Williams
2004 Jim Adams
2005 Caroline W. Amidon
2006 Jane E. Haynes
2007 Ellen Ann Scannell
2009 Dottie & Jim Becker
2010 Theresa Mieseler
2011 Joyce Brobst
2012 Don Haynie
2013 Joan Janssen
2014 John Forti
2015 Mary Ann Thomas
2016 Elizabeth Kennel
2017 Tina Marie Wilcox
2018 Justina Campbell
2023 Christine (Chrissy) Moore
2024 Maryann Readal

Gertrude B. Foster Award for Excellence
in Herbal Literature

1999 Anne Ophelia T. Dowden
2000 E. Barrie Kavasch
2002 Deni Bown
2003 Dr. Frederick G. Meyer
2004 Dr. Arthur O. Tucker
2004 Thomas DeBaggio
2005 Madalene Hill
2005 Gwen Barclay
2007 Judith Sumner Ph.D.
2008 Katherine Schlosser
2009 Pat Crocker
2011 Caroline Holmes
2012 James A. Duke Ph.D.

Joanna McQuail Reed Award for the
Artistic Use of Herbs

2004 Eleanor Lowe Donley
2005 Jan Kish
2006 Susan Belsinger
2007 Susan Hight Rountree
2008 Dorothy Bonitz
2009 Henry Flowers
2010 Joanne Woodyard
2011 Patricia Beckman

2012 Mary Reeves
2013 Geraldine Kovatch
2015 Maggie Limburg
2016 Billie Beadle
2017 Karen Mahshi
2018 Phyllis Sidorsky
2021 Pat Kenny
2024 Marilyn Rhinehalt

Elizabeth Crisp Rea Award

2016 Don Haynie
2017 Caroline Holmes
2018 Linda McDowell
2020 Chrissy Moore
2021 Laura Anthony
2022 Jean Bohn
2023 Penni St. Hilaire
2024 Marjorie Fow (Posthumously)

Madalene Hill Award For Excellence in Education

2019 Gayle Engels
2020 Patrice Hanlon
2021 Kathleen Gips
2022 Rosemary Lovall
2023 Judy Semroc
2024 Rhonda Hanks

Mighty Oak Award for Excellence in Conservation

2024 Douglas Tallamy

Certificate of Achievement

1974 Emily Emmart Trueblood
1975 Ruth M. Ostheimer, Margaret Young Reed,
Adelma Grenier Simmons, John E. Voight
1977 Maria L. Wilkes, Rudy J. Favretti
1978 Nancy Putnam Howard, Helen H. Darrah
1979 Joanna McQuail Reed, Jack Durell
1980 Virginia R. Chaney, Eustella Langdon
1981 Dr. John L. Creech, Ruth Wensch
1982 Elizabeth Botzow
1983 Mary Mason Campbell, Isadore Leighton
Smith, Beverly Bumby Geist
1984 Elisabeth Morse

1985 Alexandra H. Hicks

1986 Amy Bess Miller, Henrietta Gould Truitt

1987 Rose Canny, Jean Whitton Haskin,
Genevieve Gleason Jyurovat

1988 Gloria Falkenberg, Jo Lohmolder, Grace J.

Westlake

1989 Leila Anna Compton, E. Blanche Harvey,
Dr. Frederick G. Meyer

1990 Marion E. Bates, Ruth Smith

1991 Grace Adams Harrison

1992 Sherran Blair, Lottie Crawley (in
memoriam), Dorothy G. Spencer

1993 Thelma Marie Field, Alice B. Genyk, Pat
Kenny

1994 Eleanor Lowe Donley, Seiko Hirota

1995 Dorothy Bonitz, Margy Mirick

1996 June Centimole, Eleanor R. Isdale Gwen
Barclay

1997 Arlene Kestner, Mary Ober, Elizabeth
(Betsy) Sluder

1998 Marcia C. Carmichael, Jean J. Givens,
Rosella F. Mathieu

1999 Maggie Oster, Anne H. Abbott

2000 Sally Thwing, Jolie Bishop

2001 Beverly S. Anderson, Ginny L. Miller,
Marilyn Leslie Sly

2002 Mary S. Cartwright, Marie Garvey
Fowler,

Richard Ober (in memoriam)

2003 Elaine M.S. Livingston, Waneta Strickert,
Mary Versfelt

2004 Helen Chandler, Lane Furneaux, Sandy
Manteuffel

2006 Gertrude Burdsall, Lola Cleavinger,
Sandra

Salkeld deHoll

2007 Beverly Fennell, Lois Jean Howard,
Susan

Gail Wood

2008 Mary Nuechterlein, Priscilla Plucinsky

2009 Lory Doolittle, Mary Nell Jackson, Billi
Parus

2010 Deborah Lansley, Gail Seeley, Phyllis
Sidorsky

2011 Barbara Brouse, Lucille Dressler,
Patricia

Johnsen

2012 Joan Keif, Penni St. Hilaire, Thea Steinmetz
2013 Justina Campbell, Hilda Bourgeois Daly, Lori Schaeffer
2014 Sue Arnold
2015 Dawn Fry, Jean Marsh, Marion Sullivan
2016 Jane Brubaker, Mark Ragland, Ann Wilson
2017 Luann DeComa, Mary Northcutt (posthumously), Susan Schumann-Skehan
2018 Helen Hamilton
2020 Margaret (Peggy) Trevanion
2021 Audrey Driscoll
2022 Patricia Hansbury
2023 Rena Barnett, Holly Cusumano, Gloria Hunter
2024 Claudia Van Nes

Certificate of Appreciation

1982 Booker (in memoriam) & Mary Worthen, Roland and Ruth Remmel
1992 Emily Kutscher, Artemas Richardson
1983 New England Unit
1988 Mary Elizabeth Remmel
1989 Lorrie Clark, Dr. Richard E. Schultes, Mary Peters Taylor
1993 Jean Cozart, Bern Neil, Jane Elizabeth Thompson
1994 Cordelia P. "Dell" Gabb, George C. Gross, Jean Fisher
1995 Mary H. Milligan
1996 Joan Janssen
1997 Helen Chandler, Donald E. Fisher, Mary Chamberlain Townsend
1998 Peggy Jo Cox, Elizabeth M. Postell, Dorothy W. Veirs
1999 Roxanne Bell, Bobbie Champaign
2000 Bernice Pivarnik, Thomas DeBaggio, Robin Brown, 2001 Martha Pinder (in memoriam)
2002 Dr. Elsie Quarterman, Rosa Schachle, Dalmae Tucker
2003 Patricia Goodman (in memoriam), Jo Sellers, Carolyn Smith
2004 Elizabeth DePiero, Connie Wissing
2006 Betty Cleghorn, Jane Dunn, Corine Levien
2007 Edward HacsKaylo, Ph.D., Preston (Pat)

Miller, Jr., M.D.
2008 Dr. Laretta Dennis (in memoriam), Anna O. Smith, Tony Scanapico
2009 Marsden Champaign, Lou Richardson (post humously), Joyce Cotter
2010 Binee Curtis, Katherine Montgomery and Dr. Edward Rea
2011 Betty Gasaway, Sara Plummer, Anna Reich
2012 Lee Appel, Beth Murphy, Rita Salman
2013 Pat Benson, Joyce Douglas, Jacqui Highton
2014 Charlene Rupp
2015 Toni Foglesong, Mildred Gordon
2016 Anita Bradley, Pam Harris, Mary Ann Winder
2017 Susan Leigh Anthony, Mary Roark, Kay Scanapico
2018 Janice Stuff
2020 Ann (Mitzi) Kowal
2021 Nino Ridgeway, PhD.
2022 Nola Gildin
2023 Joanne Montowski, Andrea Sparano
2024 Sharon Hosch

Special Award of Honor

1981 Anne Burrage

Stearns Garden Medal

1971 Mittie Arnold