



THE LEADERSHIP NEBRASKA AWARD

Nebraska Press Association



AWARD PROMOTES LEADERSHIP: With the recommendation of past presidents and the approval of the board of directors, the Nebraska Press Association has instituted an award for the newspaper, publisher or executive that best promotes, recognizes or fosters leadership in the community, region or state. Nominees must be members of the Nebraska Press Association. The award is given annually at an appropriate function at the Annual NPA Convention in April.

THE LEADERSHIP NEBRASKA AWARD was conceived by Don Harpst Jr. in loving memory of his father Don Harpst Sr., and was funded by a major gift from the Harpst Family. The award does include an appropriate plaque and a cash award.

This award does not interfere with or compete with the Better Newspaper Contest which is based on journalistic excellence.

Deadline for submission of nominees must be received by the NPA office no later than February 22, 2019.

A panel of five past presidents appointed by the current President will serve as the judges for this award each year.

THE LEADERSHIP NEBRASKA AWARD

Recognizing the Nebraska Newspaper or Publisher that best promotes LEADERSHIP within their community, region, or state

PURPOSE OF THE AWARD

THE LEADERSHIP NEBRASKA Award was created and funded by the Harpst Family to recognize a Nebraska Press Association newspaper or publisher (or executive of such paper) that best illustrates efforts in promoting leadership within their community such as news articles about youth groups that foster leadership, community leadership organizations and their participants, or information about alumni of leadership groups and success stories as these individuals go on to actual community leadership posts. The Harpst Family wishes “that this award be given to the best newspaper coverage for future and present community leaders”.

AWARD CRITERIA

The criteria for this award is flexible to accommodate a wide range of journalistic endeavors that promote, recognize or foster leadership or leadership opportunities within a community, region or even the state, including (but not limited to) the following:

- *photo essay
- *editorial or series of editorials
- *news articles
- *feature story or stories
- *promotional activities
- *reward and award programs, and/or recognition events

This award is to recognize leadership and leadership potential, not service or mere participation in an activity or event. The award donors “believe it is important to develop leaders in Nebraska at all levels”.

NOMINATION GUIDELINES

- 1. Nominee newspapers, publishers or executives must be members of the Nebraska Press Association.**
- 2. Nominations should be made in writing and should include biographical information, along with any appropriate supporting documents explaining the reasons the nominee should receive the award. Letters and exhibits supporting the nominee are welcome.**
- 3. No limitations are placed on the length of such information submitted, but conciseness and clarity are suggested, even encouraged.**
- 4. Artistic qualities of the nomination submissions (such as the use of graphics, photographs, etc.) will not be considered in the selection of the award recipient.**
- 5. Any Nebraska Press Association member can submit a nomination.**
- 6. Award nominations can carry over for two years, after which a new nomination must be submitted, if the nominee does not win in the first year of nomination.**
- 7. No entry fee shall be required.**

JUDGES

Nominations will be evaluated by The Leadership Nebraska Award Committee. This committee shall have a membership of five active Nebraska Press Association Past Presidents. Should a member of the Award Committee be nominated for the award, he/she will be eligible for the nomination and award, but be disqualified from serving on the committee, and a replacement will be appointed by the President or Vice President.

AWARD PRESENTATION

This Leadership Nebraska Award is given by the Harpst Family in loving memory of Don Harpst, Sr. His biography here follows:

The first thing Don Harpst Sr. did when he bought “The Indianola Reporter” in 1940, was to organize the Rotary Club. From there leadership developed among its members. Since then and subsequent years community leadership was visible in other newspapers that he purchased in Cambridge, Wilsonville, Eustis and Curtis. Harpst lost his father at the age of 10 and his mother moved the family from Ohio to Southern Texas where she bought a weekly newspaper in LaFeria. Don learned the trade and bought his first newspaper on a “note and a prayer”! He became active in the Nebraska Press Association in 1957 and served as President in 1965. Don Harpst Sr. died in 1984 and is buried in Cambridge.

Submission of nominees must be received in the NPA office by February 22, 2019.