



California Social Welfare Archives

SOCIAL WORK HALL OF DISTINCTION

Honoring California's Social Work Leaders and Innovators

Nomination Information and Instructions

The CSWA California Social Work Hall of Distinction Committee seeks nominations of diverse and accomplished social workers whose careers have had a significant impact on the people, programs, policies, and profession in the State of California. Candidates may self-nominate, be nominated by others, or be nominated internally by the Committee.

The Social Work Hall of Distinction was established in 2002 to recognize diverse social workers whose body of work has made an outstanding contribution to the social work profession and whose practice has significantly enhanced the well-being of the people of California.

The Hall of Distinction is committed to recognizing the achievements and stories of healing, self-determination, liberation, and solidarity of diverse social workers whose work has been transformative for our communities across the state.

Fundamental expectations of all Hall of Distinction nominees are that they have earned an advanced degree in social work and have demonstrated support of social work values and the [NASW Code of Ethics](#).

NOMINATION SUBMISSION PROCESS

- Nominations are accepted at any time but **must be submitted by February 15th to be considered for the current year.**
- **Submit the attached cover sheet with additional pages, such as: a resume or CV, supplementary narrative, biographical and/or background information, letters of support (limit of 3), and a high-definition headshot or professional photo, if available.**
- You may complete and submit the nomination form and supporting materials online using a link available on the Hall of Distinction website <https://swhod.org/> (preferred method), or Email materials to cswa@usc.edu, or mail to:

CSWA Operations Center
8484 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 515
Los Angeles, CA 90211
MAIN (213) 788-2188 | FAX (323) 944-0912

- [Current Hall of Distinction Committee members](#) are not eligible for induction.
- The induction class is typically announced in the spring in NASW-CA News.
- If a nominee is not selected for the current year's induction class, submitted materials are held over for automatic review, for up to one year. Nominators are notified of the committee's decision and are invited to supplement and update the nomination submission in-between selection cycles.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Since 2020, we have moved to a Virtual Induction Ceremony to promote the safety and well-being of the inductees, their supporters, and the entire CSWA community. Nominations from across the State of California are encouraged and welcome¹. Those selected for induction are:

- original founders of the profession by virtue of developing standards or programs that positively impact historically marginalized communities,
- those who made an extraordinary contribution to professional development, and
- those who, by exemplary practice, served as roles models for other social workers, particularly those who represent the communities that they serve.

Selection is based on evidence provided that the nominee has contributed to the social work profession in any of the following ways.

- Exceptional leadership in social work practice and education, research, leadership, or social policy in California.
- Risk-taking to achieve outstanding results in social policies or programs, particularly during controversial historical periods.
- Effective advocacy against potentially harmful social policies on behalf of clients and communities, and in extending social programs to underserved populations.
- Extraordinary contributions to social work practice or application of techniques.
- Initiating innovative research or programs producing positive, tangible results for historically marginalized communities over a sustained time.
- Lived experiences and stories of resilience will be weighed equally with professional achievements to ensure the embodiment of whole-person models of honoring human social work experience and success.

¹The California Social Work Hall of Distinction Induction Ceremony is held in the fall and has traditionally coincided with the NASW-CA Annual Conference and alternated between the Southern and Northern regions of California. The North-South distinction is being held in abeyance during the pandemic.

Inductee Nomination Packet Cover Sheet

Submit cover sheet and resume or CV, with additional pages, such as: a supplementary narrative, biographical and/or background information, letters of support (limit of 3), and photo, if available.

Check here if self-nominating

Title and full name of nominee

Social Work Credential (MSW, LCSW, DSW, PhD)

Contact information for nominee

Mailing address			
Telephone		Telephone 1	
e-Mail		e-Mail 2	

Summary of major contributions and how the nominee’s body of work reflects selection criteria.

Primary Area(s) of Expertise

Contact information for the person submitting the nomination:

Full Name			
Mailing address			
Telephone		Telephone 1	
e-Mail		e-Mail 2	
Date of Submission (mm/dd/yyyy)			



OPTIONAL: Nominee Demographic Information

Please note that completing this section is voluntary and information gathered will be used to promote CSWA's efforts to expand inclusion, diversity, equality, access, and justice within the Social Work Hall of Distinction. The options and descriptions below are not intended to be exhaustive; nominators are encouraged to use their own narrative responses and/or to skip questions as appropriate.

Pronouns

A. Does the candidate have preferred pronouns?

- Yes
- No

- Prefer not to answer
- Other: _____

B. If yes, check all that apply:

- She/Her
- He/Him
- They/Them
- Ze/Zir

- Ze/Hir
- Prefer to self-describe:

Gender Identity: Describe candidate's gender identity. Please check all that apply:

- Cisgender
 - Female
 - Male
 - Self-describe: _____
- Transgender
 - Female
 - Male
 - Self-describe: _____

- Agender
- Gender Fluid
- Nonbinary
- Intergender
- Intersex
- Two-Spirit
- Prefer to self-describe:

Sexual Orientation: Describe candidate's sexual orientation. Please check all that apply:

- Asexual
- Bisexual
- Demisexual
- Fluid
- Gay
- Heterosexual or straight

- Lesbian
- Pansexual
- Questioning
- Prefer to self-describe:

Race and Ethnicity: Please describe the candidate's race, ethnicity, nationality and/or ancestry:

- _____

Disability:

A. Does the candidate have one or more disabilities (physical, visual, auditory, cognitive, emotional, or other) that requires ongoing accommodations for you to conduct daily life activities?

- Yes
- No

B. If yes, how would the candidate's disability/disabilities be best described?

Veteran Status:

A. Has the candidate served in the military?

- Yes
- No

B. If yes, briefly describe the candidate's military experience:

National Service:

A. Has the candidate served in a national volunteer service such as the AmeriCorps, Peace Corps or other?

- Yes
- No

B. If yes, briefly describe the candidate's national volunteer service experience:
