

IMPACT Awards – Call for Nominations

At the 18th HND Conference we are honoring **5 individuals** who are changing the world and advancing the Hmong community with the **HND 2017 IMPACT Awards**. The **DEADLINE** to nominate an individual is **Friday, January 27, 2017, 11:59 PM Central Time**.

NOMINATION CRITERIA

We are seeking nominations for individuals who are making an impact in the Hmong community. This can be on a local, national or global scale and can be anyone whether they are a youth, established leader, teacher, parent or more. They can be from any sector, such as the arts, business, science, technology, education, etc... We want to know what impact they are making and how they are moving our community forward. Winners will be highlighted and honored at the 18th HND Conference and at the HND Leadership Banquet on **Saturday, April 22, 2017**. You define HOW and WHY they are making an impact. But they **must meet at least 3** of the following 6 criteria:

**IMPACT: Innovation | Mentorship | Proven Integrity
Advocacy | Culture | Transcending Barriers**

Innovation –

- The individual is a trailblazer in their field/sector and is doing something that has never been done before that is advancing the Hmong community.

Mentorship –

- The individual cultivates leadership and mentors others in the Hmong community in preparation to rise into positions that will effect change.

Proven Integrity –

- The individual has demonstrated a deep moral commitment to ethical behavior and has proven this in the face of difficult situations.

Advocacy –

- The individual creates awareness and speaks out on issues important to the Hmong community and represents the underrepresented.

Culture –

- The individual honors and promotes the richness of Hmong culture, language and heritage.

Transcending Barriers –

- The individual bridges barriers across either generations, races, cultures, genders, sexualities or more in order to engage diverse communities and identify and implement solutions to pressing issues.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Individuals cannot self-nominate. They must be nominated by another person.
- Nominees can be of any age.
- Nominees **do not** have to be residents of the United States. They can be from anywhere in the world. But they must be available to travel to and attend the 18th HND Conference from April 21-23, 2017 in Milwaukee, WI.
- Nominees **do not** have to be Hmong. We acknowledge that there are non-Hmong individuals out there who have taken tremendous steps to advance our community and we welcome nominations for these individuals.
- Nominees can come from any background and education level. They might be a teacher, a lawyer, a professor, a mother, a farmer, a factory worker, a businesswoman, a stay-at-home dad, etc... We acknowledge that there are people making an impact on the Hmong community at all levels of education, background and experience. You don't have to have a degree to make an impact. You just have to have the courage to effect change.
- Individuals may not be a current HND staff, Board Member, or member of the IMPACT Award review committee.

Nomination Process

- If you are nominating someone, please review the attached application form and submit all required information via the online registration form here:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HNDC2017impact>
- You must also submit required photos by the deadline: **Friday, January 27, 2017, 11:59 PM Central Time.**
- If you have any questions while completing the nomination form, please contact one of our IMPACT Award Co-Chairs at awards@hndinc.org or via phone: Dr. Zha Blong Xiong - 612-625-5882 or Nom Fue Thao - 612-384-4716

Selection, Scoring, & Online Voting Process

- HND will award five (5) HND IMPACT Awards to the nominees with the highest final scores.
- After all submissions are collected, a selection committee comprised of HND staff, HND Board Members, and a national review committee will review and score submissions for how well nominees meet the IMPACT criteria.
- No more than 10 nominees with the highest scores will then be featured on HND's webpage and Facebook page and online voting will take place for one week for the public to vote for the person they think should receive an HND IMPACT Award.

- The number of online votes will account for 30% of the final score in the selection of the TOP 5 nominees. The other 70% will come from the final scores of the review committee.
- The TOP 5 nominees with the highest total score from both online voting and the review committee will be honored with an HND IMPACT Award at the 18th HND Conference’s Leadership Banquet.

IMPACT Award Benefits

The 5 recipients of the HND IMPACT Award will be honored and recognized in the following ways:

- Presented with an HND IMPACT Award at the HND Conference Leadership Banquet; anticipated audience of 600+ people, including key leaders in the Hmong community from across the nation, invited elected officials and more;
- Invited to give a brief acceptance speech at the Leadership Banquet;
- Invited to a meet and greet with HND Board Members, Conference keynote speakers, invited elected officials, and other VIPs;
- Featured in press coverage highlighting the HND IMPACT Award winners, including local media as well as national ethnic/Hmong media;
- Featured in the HND Conference program, distributed to over 1,000 attendees
- Featured on the HND website;
- Complementary admission to the HND Conference and Leadership Banquet for the Award winner and one guest;
- One complementary hotel room at the Milwaukee Hyatt Regency for Friday, April 21 and Saturday, April 22, 2017.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

To nominate someone for an HND IMPACT Award, please review the attached application form and submit all required information via the online registration form here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HNDC2017impact> no later than **January 27, 2017**.

- A. Completed Online Nomination Form (*link is above*)
 - a. Biography - A brief biography of your nominee (under 200 words)
 - b. Photographs - Up to 3 high-resolution photos that capture the essence of your nominee, **including one headshot**
 - i. Bio and photographs may be used in HNDC programming or marketing
 - c. 3 criteria nominee has made an impact in
 - d. 3 short answers to the matching criteria
 - e. List 2 references and their contact information
 - i. References must be able to speak to the 3 criteria the nominee is being nominated for
 - ii. Cannot be a family member or relative
 - iii. Cannot be the same person who is nominating the individual

When online nomination form is complete, please **email 3 photographs to awards@hndinc.org** with subject heading, “**HND IMPACT Award Nomination**”. Remember to include the name of your nominee in the email.

Submission DEADLINE is Friday, January 27, 2017, 11:59 PM Central Time. Early submissions are highly encouraged. If you have any questions while completing the nomination form, please contact one of our IMPACT Award Co-Chairs at awards@hndinc.org or via phone: Dr. Zha Blong Xiong - 612-625-5882 or Nom Fue Thao - 612-384-4716

Here are some suggestions to help in crafting a nomination for the HND IMPACT Awards:

Use concrete examples

When answering the nomination questions, use clear examples from the nominee's life and work that prove how they have gone above and beyond to create an impact.

What makes this person unique?

What makes your nominee special? What specific accomplishment(s) has he or she achieved that is truly remarkable in the Hmong community? How has his or her work impacted and moved the Hmong community forward?

How have they advanced the Hmong community?

On what level has their impact been made: local, state, regional, national, global?

What type of adversity have they faced?

What challenges or difficult circumstances has this person faced and how did they respond in those situations that bettered the lives of themselves and those around them?

How have you observed their impact?

How have you seen this person grow, change or develop? How has their work impacted you? Take your time to write a powerful statement. What you share is a critical factor in advancing a nomination for further consideration. A last-minute nomination that is poorly written reflects poorly upon the nominee. Have others review the nomination and give you feedback to best portray how amazing your nominee is in real life.