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SUGGESTED RULES AND PROCEDURES COVERING ANNUAL AWARDS  
BY THE WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN THE FIELD OF  
WASHINGTON STATE AND NORTHWEST HISTORY

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**PURPOSE:** The purpose of these awards is primarily to provide incentive for outstanding individual and group effort in the field of Washington history. By offering some measure of recognition for exceptionally meritorious endeavors, it is hoped such incentive will be provided.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Any person is eligible to enter his work, whether or not he is a resident of the state. The work of another may also be nominated by any individual or organization.

**ENTRIES:** The awards are for outstanding work that was written, printed or otherwise completed in a particular calendar year. Entries of such work done in the previous calendar year must be in the hands of the Director of the Society by March 1 of the ensuing year. Entries shall consist of two copies of any material that is written or printed, and in the case of a nomination that does not pertain to something in graphic form, a detailed letter, accompanied by any pertinent evidence, shall serve as nomination.

**CALL FOR ENTRIES:** Entries shall be encouraged by making known the existence of the awards each year through printed announcements sent to all persons in the field of history education, persons known to have engaged in research or writing during the year, local historical societies and to journals carrying news of historical activities. In addition press notices should be widely disseminated to seek announcement of the annual awards in newspapers. Such notices should be sent early in January of each year.

**JUDGING:** A board of at least three judges in each category in which entries are submitted shall be appointed by the president of the Society. The judgment of these judges shall be final in each case, although the judges shall have the privilege of declaring that no entries submitted in a particular category are worthy of an award. Judging shall be completed in time to make the announcement of the awards at the annual meeting of the Society in April.

**PRIZES:** The winner in each category in which an award is made shall receive a framed certificate of award, and in addition a bronze medallion. (A mold for a medallion especially designed by the sculptor, James A. Wehn, he informs me, would cost about \$800. A less costly type of medallion probably could be obtained from one of the firms that specializes in this type of material.)

Following are the categories in which the awards shall be offered:

1. **BOOK:** For the best book about Washington history published during the year, the test for excellence being accuracy, comprehensive coverage of the subject, extent of research, quality of writing, quality of illustrations, completeness and use-



fulness of bibliography and index, and general reader interest. This award for non-fiction only.

2. THESES: For the best thesis on a subject relating to Washington history produced by a candidate for either a Master's or Doctor's degree in a college or university, the test being originality, extent of research undertaken, completeness of bibliography, quality of writing and general worth of the material as a contribution to knowledge of our region's past.
3. ARTICLES AND ESSAYS: For the best article or essay published on a subject relating to Washington history, the test being quality of writing, general interest, and the extent to which the article or essay contributes to additional knowledge of or better understanding of some phase of Washington's past.
4. HISTORICAL PRESERVATION: For the most outstanding contribution during the year to historical preservation, by an individual, organization or group, the test being the worthwhileness of the preservation undertaken, the permanency or continuing nature of the preservation effort, and the extent to which the preservation will serve a useful purpose through its being displayed and interpreted to the public.
5. RESEARCH: For the most outstanding example of research in a field of history relating to the state of Washington, the test being the extent of the research undertaken, time spent on the project, and the degree to which results of the research constitute a contribution to knowledge about some phase of Washington's past.
6. HISTORICAL SOCIETY ACTIVITY: For the best record of activity during the year by a local or county historical society, the test being general program, projects undertaken and completed, museum and other educational activity, interest shown by members, and work done in preservation of local historical material.
7. TEACHING: For the most outstanding contribution to the teaching of state and regional history in the public schools, the test being the originality or effectiveness of a teaching method followed or adopted, the extent to which the contribution could be utilized similarly by others, and the effectiveness of the contribution in stimulating student interest in state history.
8. NEWSPAPERS: (Daily) For the most outstanding example of historical journalism in a daily newspaper of Washington during the year, the test not being quantity of material published, but quality in terms of writing, typographic display, illustration, accuracy of facts, originality, extent of research, and general comprehensive coverage of subject matter, with especial emphasis being given to any contribution of new knowledge about the state's past.
9. NEWSPAPERS: (Weekly) For the most outstanding example of historical journalism among the weekly newspapers in Washington, the test not being quantity of material published, but general quality and the interest indicated in developing and encouraging the writing of accurate history on the local level.