

Award Descriptions, Criteria and Nomination Requirements

NON-WBASNY AWARDS

(Updated 8/13/20)

Chapter Nominees for these awards are typically voted on at the September Board meeting.

American Inns of Court Professionalism Award in the Second Circuit

This award honors an attorney who is the quintessential mentor and as such, embodies fundamental values of the profession to which the American Inns of Court is dedicated. The honoree is a senior lawyer who for a generation or more has guided younger practitioners by word and by example. He or she is a “lawyer’s lawyer” – a master of the craft – whose life and work reflect civility, competence and ethical behavior. Attorneys who have taught, supervised and nurtured developing lawyers; and who, in doing so, have assured that the finest traditions of the Bar will be sustained are eligible.

Criteria: Engaged in the practice of law for at least twenty years; Be serving now as a lawyer in Connecticut, New York or Vermont; Occupy a senior position in the office of a prosecutor or a defender, a law firm, a private institution or corporation, or a government agency. Judges and full-time professors are not eligible.

Nominations Package Deadline: Typically, in April.

American Bar Association’s Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award

This award honors outstanding women lawyers who have achieved professional excellence within their area of specialty and have actively paved the way to success for other women lawyers. The award will be presented to five women lawyers who excel in a variety of professional settings and who personify excellence in either the national, regional or local level.

Criteria: No. 1 and at least one of the criteria in Nos. 2-4:

1. The individual achieved professional excellence in her field and
2. Influenced other women to pursue legal careers, or
3. Opened doors for women lawyers in a variety of job settings that historically were closed to them, or
4. Advanced opportunities for women within a practice area or segment of the profession.

Nominations Package Deadline: Typically, in July.

NYSBA Haywood Burns Memorial Award

The Haywood Burns Memorial Award will be given to an individual, not necessarily a lawyer, who has contributed to New York State in a manner which reflects Dean Burns’ commitment to the struggle for justice and the qualities that made him an outstanding advocate for civil rights and the empowerment of the powerless.

Criteria: Nominee has furthered the struggle for justice, assisted the powerless in gaining power, and/or advanced the civil rights of all people in New York State.

Nominations Package Deadline: Typically, in July.

NYSBA Kay Murray Crawford Memorial Award

The Kay Murray Crawford Memorial Award honors a woman annually with a distinguished legal career or a rising star in the profession who recognizes the value of diversity in the legal profession and has dedicated her time to advancing the professional development and mentoring of women attorneys.

Nominations Package Deadline: Typically, in October.

[NYSBA Root/Stimson Award](#)

This award honors a lawyer who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to community and volunteer service and to the improvement of the justice system. The award is presented to a lawyer admitted to practice in New York State who is actively involved in volunteer community service work. The award recognizes members of legal profession who have given unstintingly of their time through their community service activities. One recipient is selected for the award at the discretion of the committee.

Criteria: A detailed description of the nominee's volunteer community service activities, including the names of organizations and dates of service.

Nominations Package Deadline: Typically, in April.

[NYSBA Ruth G. Schapiro Memorial Award](#)

This award honors a female or male member of the New York State Bar Association who has made a noteworthy contribution to addressing the concerns of women. Current members of Women in the Law are not eligible to receive this award.

Nominations Package Deadline: Typically, in October.