



National Science Board

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Public Service Award

Honoring Service in Public Understanding of Science and Engineering

Deadline for 2011 Nominations Has Passed

[Link to Award Recipients](#)

About the Award

The National Science Board Public Service Award honors individuals who and groups that have made substantial contributions to increasing public understanding of science and engineering in the United States. These contributions may be in a wide variety of areas that have the potential of contributing to public understanding of and appreciation for science and engineering – including mass media, education and/or training programs, entertainment, etc.

Recipients of the NSB Public Service Award include: *NUMB3RS*, the CBS television drama series; Ira Flatow, Host and Executive Producer of NPR's "Science Friday"; Alfred P. Sloan Foundation; Bill Nye the Science Guy®; and NOVA, the PBS television series.

Eligibility

The NSB Public Service Award is typically given to one individual and one group (company, corporation, or organization) per year. Members of the U.S. Government are not eligible to receive the award.

Selection Criteria

Candidates for the NSB Public Service Award should have demonstrated outstanding leadership and accomplishment in meeting the following selection criteria:

- Increased the public's understanding of the processes of science and engineering through scientific discovery, innovation, and its communication to the public.
- Encouraged others to help raise the public understanding of science and technology.
- Promoted the engagement of scientists and engineers in public outreach and scientific literacy.
- Contributed to the development of broad science and engineering policy and its support.
- Influenced and encouraged the next generation of scientists and engineers.
- Achieved broad recognition outside of the candidate's area of specialization.
- Fostered awareness of science and technology among broad segments of the population.

Submit a Nomination

Nominations for the 2011 NSB Public Service Award may be submitted through the National Science Foundation's FastLane at <https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/honawards/>. The website contains detailed information concerning nomination procedures. Nominations remain active for three years, including the year of nomination.

- *Note for first-time Fastlane users: Create an account on the FastLane website using the link found in the upper right-hand corner above the "Log In" box.*

Nominations may also be submitted by email or postal mail:

*Bev Sherman
National Science Board Office*

National Science Foundation
4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1220
Arlington, VA 22230
bsherman@nsf.gov

Nomination Guidelines

Individual award nominations must include:

1. A current curriculum vita without publications (approximately 3 pages),
2. A narrative statement (approximately 5 pages) addressing the following:
 - a. The candidate's public service activities in science and engineering,
 - b. The candidate's contributions to public understanding of science and engineering, as they relate to the selection criteria,
3. Contact information of candidate and nominator (mailing address, email address, phone number).

Group award nominations must include:

1. A narrative statement (approximately 5 pages) addressing the following:
 - a. The group's activities, and how they accomplish the selection criteria for the award,
 - b. Length of years of the program,
 - c. Number and type of individuals served by the group's activities,
 - d. Data on the success of the program (if available),
2. Contact information of candidate and nominator (mailing address, email address, phone number).

Reference letters are optional, and up to 3 letters may be submitted. Letters can be submitted via FastLane (if used to submit nomination), email (in PDF form on letterhead), or postal mail.

For questions concerning the award, please contact Bev Sherman at 703-292-4303.

For more information about file formats used on the NSF site, please see the [Plug-ins and Viewers](#) page.



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FastLane Development Test Site

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National Science Board Public Service Award

Privacy Act and Public Burden Statements

Privacy Act Statement

The information requested on the application materials is solicited under the authority of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended. It will be used in connection with the selection of qualified applicants and may be disclosed to qualified reviewers and staff assistants as part of the review process, and to government contractors as necessary to complete assigned work, and to a court or party in a court or Federal administrative proceeding if the government is a party.

Notice of the decision may be given to nominators, and disclosure may be made of awardees' names, home institutions, and field of study for public information purposes including press releases. See Systems of Records, NSF-12, "Fellowships and Other Awards," 63 Federal Register 265 (January 5, 1998). Submission of the information is voluntary; however, failure to provide full and complete information may reduce the possibility of receiving an award.

Public Burden Statement

Pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.5 (b), an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to an information collection unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this collection is 3145-0035. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions. Send comments regarding this burden estimate and any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to:

Suzanne H. Plimpton

Reports Clearance Officer

Facilities and Operations Branch, Division of Administrative Services

National Science Foundation

Email: splimpto@nsf.gov

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