



2018 National River Heroes Awards

Nomination Guidelines

Eligibility

Open to any individual¹ who has gone to extraordinary lengths to protect our rivers, restore their health, safeguard access to clean water, or transform our understanding of the social context of water. River Network employees and board members are not eligible to submit nominations or to be nominated.

Criteria

The River Heroes Award will recognize individuals working for healthy rivers and clean water who:

- Bring people together to solve water problems
- Seek solutions that are inclusive and equitable
- Inspire and help others to make a difference
- Utilize innovative strategies and techniques to achieve significant results
- Go "above & beyond" the call of duty, their jobs, or what is expected
- Are able to give short acceptance speeches!

Application Deadline

To nominate an individual, please submit the application materials (listed below) via the online form by **Tuesday, October 31, 2017**. Please **do not** send any materials outside of those listed on the nomination form as they will not be used in the decision-making process.

Required Application Materials

- 1) A completed online nomination form

Please submit the following as one combined PDF document. Please limit

- 2) Your letter of nomination, which should cover:
 - *Background Information:* Introduce your nominee, including a relevant and brief bio that could be used in promotional materials.
 - *Contextual Information:* Describe the river/watershed of interest (e.g., size; type; water uses/users; unique features/interesting facts; etc.) or the water issue that most demonstrates their leadership, and the communities involved in your nominee's water work.
 - *Accomplishments:* The event(s), program(s) or project(s) for which the nominee deserves recognition, including the measurable/tangible results and relevance to criteria. Please be specific; **bulleted lists** are especially welcome. Be sure to mention the overarching contribution the nominee has made to healthy rivers and water.
 - *River Hero Award Qualifications:* Specifically address the ways in which the nominee meets the River Heroes criteria above.
- 3) Three (3) letters of support from members of the community.

¹ While River Network understands and appreciates the inspirational work done by couples, trios, teams, committees, entire organizations and groups of organizations, this award is specifically designed to honor individuals. Please limit your nomination to one person.

- Each letter should provide the supporter's contact information and their relationship to the nominee and specifically address the ways in which the nominee meets the River Heroes criteria. Letters of support should be representative of the community at-large and might come from members of congress, local decision makers, key community partners, etc.

Review Process

Each year's River Hero selection committee includes individuals representing the water protection and river conservation community, River Heroes from previous years, and River Network staff and board members. Each year, up to five individuals are selected to receive this honor.

Awards

Award recipients will be honored at a celebratory banquet during River Network's annual River Rally. River Rally 2018 will take place April 29 – May 2, 2018 in Olympic Valley, California. Honorees will receive a special scholarship to attend River Rally 2018 (covering event registration, lodging, and domestic travel), a plaque of commendation, acknowledgement on River Network's web page and in River Network publications, and a 1-year premium level River Network Membership.

Questions

For questions regarding the 2018 River Heroes Award, please contact Victoria Yu at 720.930.4914 or vyu@rivernetwork.org.