

NOMINATION CRITERIA  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
“EXCELLENCE IN INTERPRETATION OR EDUCATION” AWARDS

**PURPOSE OF THE AWARDS:** The Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) “Excellence in Interpretation or Education” Awards were created to recognize and reward outstanding contributions to interpretation and education efforts in the BLM.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Any BLM employee involved in interpretation and/or education efforts is eligible. Emphasis should be placed on actual accomplishments, rather than job assignments.

**NOMINATION PACKAGE:** Submit four copies of each nomination package. The nomination should include the following:

- Nominee’s name, address, and phone number.
- Name and phone number of the BLM contact or employee’s supervisor.
- Justification document describing the nominee’s accomplishments. The nomination justification should be a maximum of three single-spaced, typed pages.
- Up to five pages of supportive material, including photographs and letters of recommendation, may be attached. Digital photos should be of adequate resolution to be clear and enlargeable; print photographs should be mounted on 8½" x 11" paper. Subjects and activities in all photos must be clearly identified with captions.
- One electronic photograph of the nominee. The photograph should be a head or head-and-shoulders shot. Photographs of award finalists will appear in the awards program brochure given out at the ceremony.

**NOMINATION CRITERIA**

- Creativity and originality of the nominee’s program, product, or project.
- Degree to which the nominee’s program, product, or project has enhanced the public’s awareness of the cultural and natural resources of the public lands and their relationship to people.
- Degree to which the nominee’s program, product, or project has provided members of the public opportunities to acquire the knowledge, values, attitudes, commitment, and skills needed to protect and improve both public and private lands.
- Degree to which the nominee’s program, product, or project has helped the BLM accomplish management goals and objectives.
- Degree to which the nominee’s program, product, or project has involved partners.
- Degree to which the nominee has developed programs, projects, or products that are accessible and sensitive to diverse audiences.

In addition, the nominee's program, product, or project must:

- Have been completed within the preceding calendar year, but may involve a multi-year project.
- Have been part of the employee's official duties, rather than a personal project not sanctioned by the BLM.
- Have been a field-level program, product, or project.

**SELECTION COMMITTEE** The selection committee will consist of:

- The BLM national or a state lead for interpretation.
- A staff member from the Washington Office Division of Education, Interpretation and Partnerships.
- A staff member from the Washington Office Division of Recreation & Visitor Services or other Washington Office resource program division.
- A representative from one or more education or interpretation professional organizations.

**SELECTION OF NOMINEES** The top four nominees will be announced by BLM directive in August or September.