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Dear IPRA Member:

Enclosed is information relating to our professional awards program. The Awards Committee encourages each of you to look around and determine who in your department or community has been valuable to you and/or your agency. Awards are not only a wonderful way to honor individual(s) or groups, but also allow you to showcase the community and provide a vehicle to receive positive publicity. These awards will be presented at the IPRA Spring Conference in Waterloo on Tuesday, April 3, 2012.

The deadline for all nominations is February 24. There are only two awards which require IPRA membership; the Slattery/Trueblood Professional Award and the Dr. Carole Hanson Outstanding New Professional Award. There will only be one recipient for each of these awards. Another requirement for the Slattery/Trueblood is the nominee must have been a member with IPRA for a minimum of 10 years. Please contact IPRA Administrative Assistant Cathy Shutts at 641-236-3917 or cshutts@pcpartner.net to verify current IPRA membership status and/or years of IPRA membership. This should be done prior to submitting nomination materials.

Remaining awards categories do not require IPRA membership. Each award category will have only one recipient per category. Please take a few moments to carefully consider all the categories. Nominators can submit in multiple categories and can nominate more than one individual or organization to a specific category or categories.

Follow the steps as outlined in the brochure to ensure the person, group, organization or business you nominate is given full consideration by the Awards Committee. Please read it carefully. If you submitted a nomination last year and the person or group did not receive an award, contact committee chair Keith Abraham by February 23 if you would like to have it reconsidered for this year.

Evaluation criteria as outlined in the Awards Program brochure (pages 3 and 4) will be used by the Award Committee when selecting a recipient. The nominee does not have to meet all evaluation criteria bullet points. Provided information will enable the committee to become familiar with the nominee.

Consider looking outside your department or agency when nominating. IPRA wishes to recognize the determination and hard work of each member in providing their local community with outstanding parks and recreation opportunities.

Each Award recipient will receive two complimentary Awards Banquet tickets. Nominators will be notified so that arrangements can be made to have recipients in attendance.

New this year is the **Agency Brochure Spotlight Award**. With the vast majority of our member agencies producing an annual or biannual program brochure, we thought it apt to acknowledge those who have done an outstanding job with ease of use, readability, use of color, and use of photographs/graphics. Three recipients will be announced at Spring Conference Monday Luncheon. Population divisions are: 1) less than 5,000, 2) 5,001 to 12,000, and 3) larger than 12,001. Submittals by March 1 can be either electronic or hard copy. This will be a limited time award. Visit IPRA website for additional details.

Yours in Leisure,

Keith Abraham
Keith Abraham
2012 Awards Committee Chair

Steve Jordison
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Executive Director



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