



APWA Florida Chapter Awards Program

The Florida Chapter of American Public Works Association seeks your nominations for recognizing individuals, public agencies, projects, consultants, and contractors.

Each year recognizing the winners at the Annual Conference and Exposition is an impressive event.

Award levels include National [awards](#) which are also eligible for the Florida Chapter level. Individual and agency awards on the Florida Chapter level are separate and identified below. Submission for National Awards is not required for submission on the Florida Chapter level. It is encouraged to have your application for National awards endorsed by the Chapter. Provide information for endorsement two weeks prior to submission date.

The Awards Committee members are available to assist in selecting the levels and categories and it is highly recommended for review due to the complexity and to have a competitive submission.

Projects/Contractor/Consultant awards questions and submittals to Kyle Scott (KScott@baxterwoodman.com)

Individual awards questions and submittals to Althea Parrish (parrisha1a@gmail.com)

PROJECT AWARDS

- **Florida Chapter Project of the Year.** This award is in recognition of outstanding projects in the following categories and cost range.
 - **Structures**—to include new public structures or the preservation or rehabilitation of existing public structures including, municipal buildings and parks. Other structures as defined in the Historical Restoration/Preservation and Transportation categories shall not be considered in the structures category.
 - **Transportation**—to include roads, bridges, mass transit that serve any or all modes of travel including bicycles and foot traffic. Other transportation projects as defined in the Historical Restoration/Preservation and Structures categories shall not be considered in the Transportation category.
 - **Environment**—to include treatment and recycling facilities, landfill reclamation projects, and sewer projects.
 - **Historical Restoration/Preservation**—to include historical restoration, preservation and adaptive reuse of existing buildings, structures, and facilities that are 75 years or older to qualify as historical.
 - **Disaster or Emergency Construction/Repair**—to include the techniques and timing for safety, community relations, environmental protection, adverse conditions and additional considerations.

Awards are given in these four categories: (Note this is different than APWA National)

- **Under \$2 Million**
 - **\$2 Million to \$5 Million**
 - **\$5 Million to \$25 Million**
 - **Over \$25 Million**
- **Florida Chapter “Contractor” of the Year** This award is in recognition of outstanding projects in the following categories (no dollar amount required)
 - **Buildings and Grounds**
 - **Roads and Highways**
 - **Solid Waste**
 - **Wastewater/Water**
 - **Stormwater**
 - **Florida Chapter “Consultant” of the Year Award** This award is in recognition of outstanding projects in the following categories (no dollar amount required)
 - **Buildings and Grounds**
 - **Roads and Highways**
 - **Solid Waste**
 - **Wastewater/Water**
 - **Stormwater**

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INDIVIDUAL AWARDS (Must be an APWA member)

- **Florida Chapter Award of Excellence.** This award is presented to individual(s) who have volunteered services or assistance under special conditions as representative(s) of the Florida Chapter.
- **President's Award for Branch Excellence (PABE).** This award recognizes Florida Chapter Branches for contributions made to positively impact their membership, profession, and community. There are five categories in which the branch is evaluated. Each category has specific goals that are used to evaluate the branch's programs and services to the membership and community. All branches, regardless of size, are strongly encouraged to submit for this award.

The criteria for this award are as follows:

1. Membership:
 - o Document net Membership gain/retention
 - o Outline membership recruitment events
 - o Evidences of innovative membership development and retention efforts regardless of whether net growth has occurred
2. Service to Chapter Members:
 - o Number of members attending meetings/events
 - o Member-to-Member Outreach - Defined as member surveys, newsletters, meeting notices, member welcome packages, annual meetings, educational opportunities, leadership training, etc.
 - o Evidence that the branch is successfully meeting APWA Chapter
3. Best Practices:
 - o Branch to Branch Outreach - Defined as ranging from combined meetings with other Branches to successful programs that can be applied to other Branches
 - o Diversity/Inclusiveness programs or activities
4. Advancement of Public Works:
 - o Awards/recognition programs - Defined as branch/chapter/national awards recognizing members/nonmembers
 - o Public Works Promotion - Defined as National Public Works Week, educational outreach, and other programs geared to promote the profession
 - o Professional Development - Defined as branches that promoted the development of its members through educational and scholarship opportunities
 - o Creative Innovation - Definition has been left open to allow for any innovative programs and opportunities that call attention to public works in a positive way
5. Service to the Community
 - o Education Outreach Programs - Outside scholarships, partnerships schools/universities, mentoring programs, shadow-days, etc.
 - o Community Service Programs - Participation in the community as a branch of APWA, including partnering with other service organizations such as Harvesters, Red Cross, United Way, Habitat for Humanity, etc.
 - o Environmental Enhancement – Adopt-a-Highway programs, environmental cleanup, participation in Earth Day, recycling education, etc.

- **Mac Ulsch Award.** Mr. Mac Ulsch, better known as Uncle Mac, was instrumental in getting the Florida Chapter their "Charter" from National APWA back in 1961. Mac was extremely active on the Chapter and National level. He was honored by National for his 41 consecutive meetings without an absence and for his untiring efforts on behalf of the Membership Committee he chaired. This award named in his memory and honor and is one of the longest running awards for the Florida Chapter. **It is presented to a member who has shown long term, outstanding, on-going, dedication, and excellent service to the Florida Chapter.**
- **Ben Pratt Award.** Ben Pratt was a long-time member of the West Coast Branch where he served the branch in each of the officer's positions. He then moved on to the Florida Chapter where he served on many committees either as a committee member or committee chair. In 1984-85 he served as District Representative for Region IX, later moved on to be Vice President of the Chapter in 1986-87, then served as President of the Chapter in 1987-88. After serving as President he then became Secretary of the Chapter. APWA has recognized Ben for several prestigious Chapter awards and several national awards most notably in 1982 as Top Ten Public Works Leader, in 1983 as Florida Member of the Year, and in 1991 for the Swearingen Award for Chapter Excellence. Ben was very active with the Boy Scouts of America and many other youth programs. Ben was a friend to many and a gentleman to all who had the pleasure of knowing him. **This award named in his memory and honor and given to an individual in recognition of their support of APWA's national, state, and professional goals. Applications for this award should indicate membership activities, branch activities, attendance at chapter events, and support for public works.**
- **Anthony W. Leffin Lifetime Achievement Award.** Tony Leffin was a long-time member of APWA, who during his tenure had excelled to the top of the APWA ranks in every fashion possible. He was a leader in his field, in his community, and in his life. Having held practically every position within the Branch and the Chapter, being the Florida Chapter Past President, rising to the top as the Chair for the House of Delegates on the National level, being a multi-award winner in the Florida Chapter and being a Top Ten Public Works Leader, Tony was the exemplary model of what an APWA champion should be. **In honor of his memory, this award is given each year to the most deserving of long term member having met the following most stringent criteria. This award seeks to inspire excellence and dedication in public service by recognizing the outstanding career service achievements of an individual public works professional. The primary focus of the award is on career service to the public works profession rather than on any one single event or project. It is the intent of this award to recognize the career service accomplishments of a public works professional. The candidate must be an active member in the year he or she is considered. This award is restricted to the most elite of those who have illustrated public works leadership throughout their career. Candidates should have 20 years or more of service in the public works field as well as 20 years or more membership in APWA; they should have been an active member, a strong or key sponsor of APWA during their tenure, and should have held key positions in the branch, chapter, or national offices; they should have made significant contributions to all levels of APWA on branch, chapter, and national efforts; being a prior award winner of other awards, although not required, will be considered in the evaluation; they should have exhibited other community service activities; and branch endorsement is strongly recommended.**

- **Legislator of the Year Award.** This award is given annually to the Florida legislator who best supports the programs and activities of Public Works in Florida. The candidate for this award does not have to be a member of APWA, but this person must show legislative leadership for Public Works through legislative actions, personal guidance or support, championship, or otherwise active involvement in Public Works.
- **Orange Heart Medal.** This medal is awarded to public works employees who show meritorious service in emergency situations. Typically, this may include extraordinary or life-saving actions on behalf of the recipient.
- **Community Involvement Award.** To recognize a member who is actively involved in their community, either where they work or where they live. This award acknowledges outstanding involvement to enhance quality of life and to be a positive role model.
- **Diversity Exemplary Practices Award.** To recognize exceptional performance in individuals, teams, or organizations in the areas of diversity whose outstanding contributions in the course of performance raises the level of the public works profession.
- **Young Leader Award.** To recognize and encourage young APWA members who have demonstrated an initial commitment to the profession and the association and show potential for future growth with the association. The award promotes the concept that length of career does not necessarily indicate leadership abilities or potential for service.
- **Technical Innovation Award.** To recognize an individual, team or organization for the development, management and implementation of a creative idea, program, process, or system that enhances the delivery of public works services to the public.
- **Management Innovation Award.** To recognize an individual, team or organization for the development, management and implementation of a creative idea, program, process, or system that enhances the delivery of public works services to the public. A management innovation is defined as a procedure such as a system, program or process.
- **Professional Manager of the Year Award for Administrative Management.** To recognizes outstanding achievements in the area of administration within the public works field who inspires excellence, leadership and dedication to the public good.

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