



2021 NSEE Awards of Excellence Criteria

Please submit your nomination [here](#). *[Previous award winners](#) and [current board members](#) are not eligible for awards.

Anna Julia Cooper Excellence in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice in Experiential Education Award

Recognizes an outstanding K-12 or higher education program or initiative that has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice in experiential education in their classrooms or on their campuses.

To be considered, the program or initiative must:

- Demonstrate goals and objectives that are consistent with [NSEE Standards and Practice](#)
- Demonstrate clear guidelines for building relationships with communities/community organizations.
- Provide equitable and authentic programming, curricula, and/or partnerships.
- Actively engage with communities for social equity and justice.

Outstanding Experiential Education Program

Recognizes an outstanding K-12 or higher education institution that has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to experiential education in their classrooms or on their campuses.

To be considered, the program must:

- Demonstrate goals and objectives that are consistent with [NSEE Standards and Practice](#)
- Be innovative in its design, implementation and evaluation
- Demonstrate both depth and breadth of impact through program assessment

Outstanding Leader in Experiential Education: Higher Education Award

Recognizes an individual in higher education who has demonstrated innovative uses of experiential learning in their institution.

To be considered, the nominee must:

- Be employed by a 2 or 4-year degree-granting institution during the year immediately preceding the award
- Play a leadership role in the design, development, and implementation of experiential education programs in a higher education institution
- Actively participate in national or regional conference sessions and/or produce publications contributing to the field of experiential education
- Serve as a mentor to newcomers and rising leaders in the field

Outstanding Leader in Experiential Education: K-12 Award

Recognizes a K-12 teacher, principal, or superintendent who has demonstrated innovative uses of experiential learning in their classroom or school system.

To be considered, the nominee must:

- Be employed by a K-12 school or school district during the year immediately preceding the award
- Play a leadership role in the design, development, and implementation of experiential education programs
- Actively contribute to the field of experiential education by leading or providing professional

development for others, attending or presenting at conferences and/or producing publications

- Actively promote experiential education and serve as a mentor to others

Outstanding Leader in Experiential Education: Community-Based Organization

Recognizes a community-based organization or nonprofit that has made outstanding contributions to experiential education.

To be considered, the organization must:

- Be a community-based organization or nonprofit
- Play a leadership role in the design, development, and implementation of experiential education programs designed to meet community needs
- Collaborate with higher education institutions, K-12 schools, government entities or other non-profits
- Advocate for experiential education programs to include individuals/groups from diverse backgrounds

Outstanding Leader in Experiential Education: Corporate or Foundation

Recognizes a business or corporation that has demonstrated outstanding support of experiential education through its financial or volunteer commitment to the field.

To be considered, the organization must:

- Have established an experiential education program where top management's commitment is demonstrated through the organization's continuing goodwill
- Be supporting an experiential education program financially or with volunteer efforts
- Endeavor to provide quality work experiences for students by taking an active role in the orientation of new students/interns/co-op; handling of student logistics; planning and development of experiential education assignments; and training of experiential education supervisors

Outstanding Experiential Education Rising Leader

Recognizes an individual who has joined NSEE within the past five years and is already making outstanding contributions to experiential education.

To be considered, the nominee must:

- Have joined the field within the last five years
- Be actively developing, leading or engaging in experiential education projects
- Contribute to the field through conference participation and presentations and/or develop research and publications that grow the field

Outstanding Experiential Education Research

Recognizes an individual who has recently published research that makes important contributions to our understanding of experiential education.

To be considered, the nominee must:

- Have published research about experiential education within the past two years
- Make important contributions to an area of experiential education that is aligned with [NSEE's Mission, Vision and Goals](#)

Dissertation of the Year Award

Recognizes an individual who has completed a doctoral dissertation that makes important contributions to our understanding of experiential education.

To be considered, the nominee must:

- Have completed a doctoral dissertation about experiential education within the past two years and is aligned to [NSEE's Mission, Vision and Goals](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I nominate myself?

Yes, you can!

Can I nominate more than one person?

Yes, there is no limit to how many individuals or organizations you can nominate in each category, or across categories. [Previous award winners](#) and [current board members](#) are not eligible for awards.

Does the nominee need to be a member of NSEE?

No, but the nomination form does ask whether the nominee's institution or organization is a member of NSEE.

Do I need to be a member of NSEE to nominate someone?

No, nominations are open to all.

What information will I need to nominate someone?

The online nomination form found under the [NSEE Awards of Excellence website](#) requires the nominee's resume or curriculum vitae as well as their contact information, contact information of their supervisor and relevant supporting documents.

When will the nominee be contacted?

The nominee will be notified of their nomination by mid-March. They will be notified of their award status by early May.

I still have questions!

Reach out to the **NSEE Awards of Excellence Chair or Co-Chairs:**

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