

**Virginia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance**  
**Award Criteria**

7.19

Revised 01-30-2021

I. Name: Dance Educator of the Year K-12

II. Criteria

- A. The candidate must have 5 years experience of major responsibility in teaching dance in an elementary, middle school, secondary or College/University or have at least five years experience as a performing professional in dance.
- B. The candidate must be a current VAHPERD member.
- C. In addition, the candidate must be a person who:
  - 1. Teaches creatively and utilizes various methodologies;
  - 2. Promotes an understanding of dance as a creative art through the discussion of aesthetics of students= own works, and/or the works of others;
  - 3. Emphasizes the significance of dance as an integral cultural component that enables students to understand their own cultural heritage as well as that of others;
  - 4. Presents a balanced and sequential curriculum based on the developmental, social and psychological needs of students;
  - 5. Provides opportunities for students to share their creative works with appropriate audiences;
  - 6. Shows professional commitment through membership and active participation in local, state, and/or national dance organizations;
  - 7. Serves as a positive role model for students.
- D. A minimum score of 50% available points is required for the applicant to be considered for an award.

III. Rules for Nomination

- A. Any dance professional who meets the criteria may apply personally for this award or be nominated by a colleague.

IV. Application

- A. Nominations must be submitted (typewritten) to the Chair of the Awards Committee by April 1.
- B. The Chair of the Awards Committee will send the candidate the “Candidate Application Form” and publicity release form by April 10.
- C. The application form and publicity release form must be completed by the nominee and returned to the Chair of the Awards Committee by June 15.
- D. Three to five reference letters from school officials, colleagues, parents and students must be submitted with the application.
- E. Attach separate sheets, if needed, to expand on the candidate’s qualifications under the Awards Policy and Procedures criteria. Major consideration for the award will be given to those criteria.
- F. Additional supporting material such as current resume, course outlines, programs and newspaper clippings may be included.
- G. Nominees, if not selected, shall remain eligible for a period of two years.