

Awards Committee Update – Sept. 16, 2022

2022 Illinois District House of Delegates Meeting

(submitted by Doug Ferrier, 2022 Awards Committee Chairman)

Summary

- Thank you to Mike Bagby
- Introduction of current Awards Committee
- Impact of award categories introduced by HOD in May 2022
- Awards update:
 - o New awards created since Sept. 2021
 - o Repurposed award
 - o Trophies yet to be created
 - o Medals replace most plaques
 - o Google Form for award nominations (Ed Wilson, Sol Gamis, Charles Hecking)
 - o Other Updates

Detail

Thank you, Mike

I'd like to thank the former Illinois District Awards Committee Chairman **Mike Bagby** and his team of dedicated volunteers for their many years of service to the district. Under his leadership, Mike and his team created processes to assist with the creation, maintenance, and distribution of awards. Over the last two years, he's worked to transition out of this role and pass along what he learned to the next team. We appreciate what Mike and the team have done to ensure Illinois District quartets, choruses and members are recognized for their achievements and contributions.

Introduction of current Awards Committee

Beginning in January of 2022, **Doug Ferrier** assumed the role as the District Awards Chairman. Additional team members include: **Steve Davis** (ABE), **Rich Hansen** (High School/Next Gen), and **Jeff Lathum** (Contest & Judging).

Impact of award categories introduced by HOD in May 2022

With the HOD decision to add multiple award categories at the quartet and chorus level, the awards committee continues to look for new ways to recognize singers in each category in a meaningful way, while looking to keep costs down.

The creation of the new categories adds expense to the district (more awards) as well as additional complexity to contest & judging, contest call-offs and the presentation of awards. It will also increase the number of awards quartets and choruses are eligible to receive.

Awards Update

Since the 2021 Fall Convention, the committee has been busy:

New trophies created (looking for sponsors)

- **High School Women's Quartet Champion Trophy** – Category created in 2017. Trophy created April 2022 – displayed for the first time at the Mt. Zion HS 25th Anniversary Acapalooza.
- **High School Mixed Quartet Champion Trophy** – Category created in 2019. Trophy created April 2022 – displayed for the first time at the Mt. Zion HS 25th Anniversary Acapalooza.
- **Adult Men's Quartet Champion Trophy** – Category created in May 2022. Trophy created Sept. 2022.

Repurposed trophy

- **Mixed Harmony Chorus** – Category created in May 2019. The retired Frank Thorne Award (% of chapter members registered for the contest created by Dickie Johnson which was retired in 2019) will now

become the Mixed Chorus Champion Trophy. We already have two winners (Arlington Heights – 2021, Rockford Metro – 2019)

Trophies not yet created (*looking for sponsors*)

- **Adult Women's Quartet Champion Trophy** – Category created in May 2022. No entrants in the Fall Convention. Creation of the trophy will occur at a later date.
- **Adult Women's Chorus Quartet Champion Trophy** – Category created in May 2022. No entrants in the Fall Convention. Creation of the trophy will occur at a later date.

ABE Award

We typically give recipients an engraved clock in the year they are recognized. We purchased 10 clocks in 2013, and have one more clock to give at our 2023 convention. The awards committee will begin researching an appropriate and meaningful gift that can be given to the ABE recipient in 2024.

Medals replace most plaques

In most instances, medals will replace plaques in all quartet champion categories, as it

- 1) Allows for immediate recognition at the Illinois District convention (medals will be hung over the trophies, similar to IHSA state sporting events), and
- 2) It is cost-efficient for the Illinois District to do so. Reducing the number of plaques to 16 (from 36 pre-2022, and what would have been 44)

Exceptions for 2022 (this will be reevaluated for 2023):

- 1 plaque will be given to the High School for the winner of each competing category (1 for HS Men, 1 for HS Women, 1 for HS Mixed). The plaque will be presented to the school within 45 days following the competition. It will include the Illinois District logo, the category of champion, the year, and the names of those in the quartet. Reasoning: This can be permanently displayed at the school in display cases (similar to other IHSA awards), recognize singers, instill school pride, add incentive for others to compete, and be a constant reminder of our artform to students in the school. (up to 3 plaques each year)
- Large Chorus Champion (1 certificate, 1 plaque to be created within 45 days)
- Gene McNish Small Chorus Award (1 certificate, 1 plaque to be created within 45 days)
- Most Improved Chorus (1 certificate, 1 plaque to be created within 45 days)
- Ed Wilson – Quartet Service Award (4 plaques to be created within 45 days)
- Sol Gamis – Quartet \$\$ Contributions (4 plaques to be created within 45 days)
- Charles Hecking – Chorus \$\$ Contributions (4 plaques to be created within 45 days)

Certificates are given for the following awards:

- Plateau Awards 5A, 4A, 3A, 2A, 1A

Google Forms

Going forward, it is our intent to simplify the nomination process using Google Forms for the Ed Wilson Quartet Service Award, Sol Gamis Quartet Charitable Contribution Award, Charles Hecking Chorus Charitable Contribution Award, and the ABE award.