

### IAAPA Individual Achievement Awards Criteria

The IAAPA Individual Achievement Awards celebrate exceptional individuals who go above and beyond to inspire progress, excellence, and positive change across the attractions industry through four prestigious awards: The IAAPA Hall of Fame, Regional Inspiration Award, Regional Service Award, and Regional Young Professional Award. Below, we have defined some differentiations between the four awards to help you accurately place your nominee.

<b>Dimension</b>	<b>Young Professional</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Inspiration</b>	<b>Hall of Fame</b>
Nature of Contribution	Volunteerism, Service to IAAPA, Emerging Leadership	Mentorship, Volunteerism, Service to IAAPA	Improvements, Applications, Leadership, Education	Breakthroughs, Inventions, Foundational Ideas
Scope	Regional, Organizational, Within IAAPA	Regional, Within IAAPA	Regional, Organizational, Niche	Global, Industry-wide
Impact	Positive and growing impact within IAAPA and the broader industry	Strengthens IAAPA programs, communities, and member engagement	Meaningful influence on peers, organizations, or their region	Transformational impact on the attractions industry
Legacy	Early-career promise with long-term potential	Sustained contribution and commitment	Mid to Long-Term	Long-Term, Iconic, Historic
Audience Inspired	Emerging professionals, peers, and early-career members	IAAPA members, volunteers, and leadership communities	Peers, teams, organizations, and regional communities	The global attractions industry and future generations

*\*Judging task forces for the Regional Individual Achievement Awards select one(1) winner per category, per region each year, while the Hall of Fame judging task force is encouraged to select three(3) inductees each year.*





## The IAAPA Regional Inspiration Awards

**Award Description:** The IAAPA Regional Inspiration Award is a prestigious honor that awards the significant impact made by individuals within their respective region. It serves as a testament to their unwavering commitment, outstanding achievements, and regional contributions within the industry. The Inspiration Award distinguishes individuals who while pursuing their dreams, greatly benefited the industry in their region specifically.

### Award Criteria:

1. IAAPA Membership past or present is preferred, but not required.
2. Must have been associated with the attractions industry for a minimum of **10** years.
3. Must be affiliated with a theme or amusement park, water park, family entertainment center, zoo, aquarium, museum, science center, natural or adventure attraction, resort, or other attraction, manufacturer, supplier, or consultant.
4. Must have contributions in one or more of the following areas:
  - a. Innovation
  - b. Education
  - c. Leadership
  - d. Influence both within their organization and region-wide that will continue to be of value in the future

### Examples of contributions to the attractions industry:

- An individual who has contributed to the success and inspiration of other regional industry leaders.
- Creating innovations or technologies that contribute how attractions or experiences are designed, operated, or imagined within their region
- Enhancing existing equipment, processes, or services in ways that improve efficiency, safety, or guest satisfaction.
- Leading regional or organizational initiatives that demonstrate creativity, leadership, or operational excellence.
- Developing training programs, presentations, or written materials that help professionals grow.
- Delivering marketing or communication efforts that significantly improve performance and contribute to the marketing standards in their region





### Application Materials:

- General information about the nominee (Name, Email, Region, IAAPA Certification, Company, Years Active in the Industry)
- A separate, typewritten document, no more than three (3) pages that summarizes the nominee's achievements and contributions to the attractions industry. The nomination should include, but is not limited to:
  - Leadership, education, or applied improvements within the attractions industry
  - Actions or ideas that meaningfully influence peers, teams, organizations, or their region
  - Demonstrated ability to inspire others and drive professional growth or innovation
  - Regional, organizational, or niche impact with mid to long-term significance within the industry
  - Clear evidence of positive influence beyond the nominee's immediate role
  - Relevant timelines/dates to contextualize the nomination
- Any related additional material, including, but not limited to newspaper articles, front page of a patent(not a full patent), magazine articles, excerpts from books (please do not send entire books), and anyother documents or materials that directly support the nominee's industry contributions.
  - There is space for up to four (4) URLs/links, and four (4) separate document uploads
  - Please note that document uploads should follow this naming convention: LAST NAME OF NOMINEE | name of material being submitted | submission year. *Example: COOK New York TimesTop 100 Article 2025*

### Deadline:

October 16, 2026

### Awarded At:

IAAPA Honors 2027

