

VAFRE's Nina Abady Award

Call for Nominations for 2012

The Nina Abady Award is the most prestigious award given by the Virginia Association of Fundraising Executives (VAFRE). It is presented to a fundraising professional who has demonstrated utmost excellence in the field of development. The award signifies to individuals, organizations, and the greater community that the recipient has garnered the respect and admiration of colleagues throughout the Commonwealth for professional and ethical service.

The recipient is honored at a special luncheon attended by representatives from across the Commonwealth. This luncheon provides a significant opportunity for those who have been influenced by the recipient—from colleagues to board members to other professionals in the field—to show their appreciation and gratitude.

History

Richmond icon Nina Abady was a university instructor/lawyer turned development professional who was passionate about both the community and the arts. She put that passion to work as a founder and supporter of a number of Richmond community, historic and civic events before her death in 1993. Nina Abady founded “Downtown Presents,” “Friday Cheers,” “The Big Gig” and the “Second Street Festival,” all very successful endeavors that revitalized the downtown area by bringing thousands out to enjoy and celebrate artists, musicians, and other performers in Richmond. Nina Abady Festival Park between the Coliseum and 2nd street bears a bronze plaque with her likeness and her accomplishments. Her favorite word was community. She was a founding member of VAFRE and recognized as a force of nature—a remarkably good person, a fantastic motivator, and a champion for social justice with an uncommon devotion to humanity. In the glowing tributes following her death she was described as eloquent and idealistic, an individual of unlimited enthusiasm, and a bright light in the city. It is fitting that the prize for excellence in the field of advancement bears her name. She was an outstanding role model.

In 1991, the Annual Fundraiser of the Year Award was first given to Mr. Jerry Quigg who, along with Ms. Abady and a handful of young fundraisers, founded VAFRE in 1980. After Nina’s death in 1993, the award was renamed and given in her honor to a deserving fundraiser. The list of distinguished award winners who followed comprises a virtual who’s-who of Virginia’s fundraisers:

Maureen Neal (2011)
Lisa Freeman (2010)
Barbara Wells (2009)
Delores Smith (2008)
Michelle Thomson (2007)
Lee Switz (2006)
Jane V. Helfrich (2005)
Edward G. Kardos (2004)
Kathleen Burke Barrett (2003)
Peter Wyeth (2002)
Judy Lankford (2001)

Ned Moore (2000)
Michael Dowdy (1999)
Mary Ellen Stumpf (1998)
George M. Peters (1997)
Marlin E. Balsbaugh, Jr. (1996)
D. Chris Withers (1995)
Alex Smith (1994)
Lucy Boswell Negus (1993)
Cheryl Gonzales Yancey (1992)
H. Gerald Quigg (1991)

Award winners are selected from a competitive field of finalists who were nominated by VAFRE members, area fund-raisers, and board members. The selection committee, chaired each year by the previous year’s winner, convenes each year to review nominations and select the winner.

Criteria for Nina Abady Award

- Nominee has shown outstanding professional and ethical service to the field of development.
- Nominee has made a positive impact on his/her affiliated organization
- Nominee has shown innovation in planning and implementing a successful fund raising strategy or project (campaign).
- Nominee has demonstrated leadership abilities among his/her constituents.
- Nominee makes himself/herself available as a mentor in the field of development and has demonstrated support of and involvement with VAFRE (e.g. speaking engagements, in-kind support, mentoring of VAFRE members, or other such activities.)
- Nominee can either be a member of or eligible for membership in VAFRE. Membership guidelines may be found at www.vafre.org.

Guidelines

- Any member of the development field, including board members or other volunteers involved with a nonprofit organization, may make nominations.
- Letters of support are accepted and encouraged (maximum of three).
- Nominators can make as many nominations as they wish.
- Individuals may nominate themselves.
- Nominees must either be a member of or eligible for membership in VAFRE. Membership guidelines may be found at www.vafre.org.
- Nominees may not serve on the VAFRE Board of Director or the Selection Committee.

Nomination Process

- Nominations should be made in writing using the standard nomination form.
- Nominations should speak to the above criterion as well as other career highlights and areas of outstanding service by the nominee.
- Letters of support will be accepted by email or hard copy (no more than 3 letters of support will be accepted).

2012 Nominations should be sent to the VAFRE Offices by hard copy or e-mail to: yafre@catapult-inc.com

Questions

VAFRE Board contact is: Toni Maxey, HOME of Virginia, (804) 237-7552, toni.maxey@phonehome.org.

DEADLINE FOR 2012 NOMINATIONS IS WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2012

NOMINATION FORM

VAFRE'S 2012 NINA ABADY
DEVELOPMENT RECOGNITION AWARD

INSTRUCTIONS FOR NOMINATION

Individuals may nominate as many candidates as they wish. Members may nominate themselves. Nominees should either be a member of or eligible for membership in VAFRE. Membership guidelines may be found at www.vafre.org. Nominees should not be a present member of VAFRE's Awards Committee or Board of Directors. Nomination should be no longer than two pages and must be signed by the nominator. Letters of support (up to 3) will be accepted by hard copy or via email.

Please submit nominations by e-mail to vafre@catapult-inc.com by **Wednesday, February 15, 2012**.

Full Name of Nominee: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Length of Service in Development: _____

Name and affiliation of those sending Letters of Support for this nominee

1. _____ Affiliation _____

2. _____ Affiliation _____

3. _____ Affiliation _____

Nominated by (Name): _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Summary Description of Qualifications

Concrete Examples of Leadership and Success in Fundraising

Submitted by: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Nominator