



Patricia Sirois, Chair
NFDW Awards Committee
45 Jefferson Lane
East Hartford, Ct. 06118
860-568-0065

January 5, 2012

Dear State Presidents and Regional Directors,

The NFDW Convention of 2012 is fast approaching. I would like to introduce myself and my Committee members. The Awards Committee members are Karen Ray, Ella Creech Peete, Betty Smith, Barbara Mansfield as our Advisor and myself Patricia Sirois.

We are contacting you for nominees for consideration for: ***Outstanding NFDW Member of the Year, Outstanding Elected Democratic Woman Holding Public Office, and the NFDW Humanitarian Award.***

These awards are presented annually during our Convention. These awards started with our NFDW founder, Rilla Moran Woods and others informally in 1986. In 1987, the awards were drafted, formalized with criteria and sent to NFDW members. States were encouraged to recognize Outstanding Democrats in these categories and forward the choices as a nominee for consideration to NFDW. The Awards Committee then presents the winners during the Awards Luncheon at the Convention.

It is the Committee's hope this year as it has been in the past, that you will encourage your members to participate in this process. Below are the guidelines for selection.

GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR NOMINATIONS AND SELECTION

1. In submitting the supporting information for a nominee, follow the criteria which is the basis for evaluating nominees for the Awards.
2. Present supportive material as numbered exhibits with the letter of nomination.

3. Nominations are to be submitted by State Federations, or where the entire state is not federated by a member club. The nominee need not be a resident of the state submitting the nomination.
4. The nominee must be present at the National Convention to receive the award, unless some unforeseen event occurs to prevent attendance.
5. Organizations are requested to limit nominations to one per category.

OUTSTANDING NFDW MEMBER OF THE YEAR

1. Current active member of the NFDW who personifies NFDW objectives (i.e., Article II, Bylaws: The objective of the NFDW shall be to unite women of the Democratic Party, to promote the cause of the Democratic Party and to encourage full participation of women in every level of the Democratic Party structure)
2. Contribution by the nominee to the growth, development and promotion of NFDW.
3. National scope and stature of the nominee.
4. Personal political involvement by the nominee.

OUTSTANDING ELECTED DEMOCRATIC WOMAN HOLDING PUBLIC OFFICE

1. Current elected Democratic office holder of statewide, regional or national scope.
2. Demonstrated support of NFDW by nominee.
3. Significant contribution to the Democratic Party and its principles by the nominee.
4. Demonstrated commitment by the nominee to the success of other Democratic women in the Party organization and for elective office.

NFDW HUMANITARIAN AWARD

1. Significant contribution to the cause of human and/or civil rights.
2. Demonstrated support of the NFDW.
3. Nominee possesses leadership qualities.
4. Nominee's success in achieving human and /or civil rights. (The nominee may be male or female but must meet the criteria.)

DEADLINE MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 15, 2012 TO BE CONSIDERED.

Send nominations to Patricia Sirois, Awards Chair
45 Jefferson Lane
East Hartford, CT. 06118
Email: pasirois@comcast.net

Looking forward to seeing you at the NFDW Convention.

Sincerely,

Patricia Sirois