

Do you know someone who exemplifies the highest level of commitment and support to American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) elders?

The National Indian Council on Aging is accepting nominations for three categories of awards:

1. **Wendell Chino** – A person that gallantly advocates for the wellbeing of AI/AN Elders.
2. **Juana Lyon Award** – A person that demonstrates superior leadership and innovation in service delivery to AI/AN Elders.
3. **Susan Marmon** – An outstanding person that provides care to an AI/AN Elder(s). Or is an Elder Caregiver providing care to AI/ANs.

The criteria are simple.

Tell us about someone, in at no more than 500 words, who best personifies one of the categories above and would be a worthy role model to be emulated by others.

Letters of recommendation should be included to give testimony to a long-standing commitment to public service. Along with the letters of recommendation, please attach any articles, awards or other documentation of the nominees' accomplishments and charitable works.

Please give consideration to:

- Length of service
- Scope and impact of work
- Degree of difficulty and obstacles encountered
- Imagination and innovation

An assembly of nominees will be selected and placed be on the official ballot. The nominees are then voted on and selected by the NICOA Board of Directors. Recipients are then invited to attend the ceremony honoring their accomplishments. If the honoree is unable to attend, a conference attending representative may receive the award on their behalf. **Deadline to submit your nomination is June 30, 2021.**

NICOA is, a 501(c)(3) membership and service organization, founded in 1976 by members of the Tribal Chairman's Association. Late Honorable, Wendell Chino, was the driving force behind the first NICOA Conference on Aging. Mr. Chino served as the President of the Mescalero Apache Tribe of New Mexico, and the Chairman of the Tribal Chairman's Association, and also served as the Honorary Chairman of the National Indian Council on Aging. His eloquent, inspirational speech calling for action on behalf of AI/AN Elders was the motivation for the creation of NICOA.

NICOA decided to promote the values of selflessness, integrity, and caring by searching for those individuals who devote their lives in service to others, like Wendell Chino. NICOA shares our creation story so that people of all ages may be inspired by Wendell Chino and people like him that aspire to make life better for others.

NICOA honors caring Americans with a long-standing commitment to advocacy to help improve the comprehensive health, social service and economic well-being of AI/AN Elders.

*Let him that would move the world, first move himself.*  
- Seneca



# Honoring Our Elders Award Nomination Form

Simply fill in the nomination form below, complete the 500 word summary, two (2) letters of recommendation and all supporting documentation, please send by email, fax or mail to:

Honoring our Elders Award  
Attn: 2020 NICOA Conference  
8500 Menaul Blvd., Suite B470  
Albuquerque, NM 87112  
Phone: 505/202-2001 Fax: 505/292-1922  
Email: [info@NICOA.org](mailto:info@NICOA.org), or [carchibald@nicoa.org](mailto:carchibald@nicoa.org)

Categories (**Select one**):  
1. Wendell Chino Award  
2. Juana Lyon Award  
3. Susan Marmon Award

Honoring our Elders Award Nomination Form  
**Deadline for Submission is June 30, 2021**

**NOMINEE INFORMATION:**

Category (choose a number from above 1, 2, 3): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee’s name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization/Tribe (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOMINATOR INFORMATION:**

Nominator’s name and title: \_\_\_\_\_

I attest that I am a current dues paying member of NICOA. I am eligible to submit this nomination.

Organization (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

# Honoring our Elders Award Nomination Process FAQs

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## **What characteristics and accomplishments are you looking for in a NICOA Award candidate?**

Honoring Our Elders Award recipients are role models who exemplify an extraordinary commitment to public service and social responsibility. Recipients should come from all walks of life, but are united in their deep concern for AI/AN Elders. We seek to honor those who have demonstrated selflessness, exhibited a long-term commitment to service and the betterment of aging services, and who have had a significant impact on the lives of AI/AN Elders in their community, Tribal Nation, and/or nationally. We particularly look for those who have worked with an organization that is centered on serving AI/AN Elders, as well as those whose efforts will last beyond their lifetime.

## **What are the guidelines to be nominated for the Honoring Our Elders Award?**

We classify our Honoring Our Elders Award winners as those candidates who are nominated by a NICOA dues paying member. Only NICOA members may nominate a candidate. If you are uncertain of your membership status, please call 505-292-2001. Any person that fits the characteristics and accomplishments above are eligible for nomination. Nomination forms must be complete and received or **post marked by June 30, 2021**

## **How do I nominate someone for an Honoring Our Elders Award?**

Simply complete the form on the front of this sheet and submit it, along with a written (500 word maximum) summary explaining why you think your nominee should be recognized, and the names and phone numbers of people to contact regarding your nominee's activities. We recommend that a nomination form be supported by at least one (1) letter of recommendation. It is beneficial to include newspaper articles, letters, and any additional information to support your nomination.

## **What is the Honoring Our Elders Award nomination process?**

All of the nominations we receive are acknowledged, reviewed, and evaluated. The NICOA nomination committee and staff review every nomination we receive, research those with potential, and provide the NICOA Board of Directors with a broad sampling of finalists. The board then selects one (1) award recipient from each of the three categories. Once an award recipient is selected, we must confirm with the nominee that they can be present to accept their award at our official ceremony. NICOA will provide a complementary membership, conference registration and complimentary room for two at the Nugget Casino Resort, for each of the three award finalists only. If the finalist is unable to attend in person, we will arrange for the award to be shipped to you. Because NICOA pays for the conference at cost we are not able to offer complimentary travel to Reno, NV. NICOA will notify the awardee in advance to allow reasonable time to arrange for sponsorship from the local community and or Tribe for travel and other costs.

## **How are Honoring Our Elders Award recipients honored?**

Recipients are invited to a special ceremony where they are honored for their acts of caring for AI/AN Elders. We present to each winner a beautiful award to display and a framed certificate. Recipients are also profiled in the NICOA Quarterly Newsletter and on the NICOA Website.