



March 3, 2010

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Barbara Saxberg, Canadian Media Guild

TO: Local Presidents and Administrative Officers

FROM: Bernard J. Lunzer, President

RE: Charles B. Dale Guild Service Award

Nominations are now open for the Charles B. Dale Guild Service Award, TNG-CWA's annual recognition of excellence in local leadership.

Deadline for submission of nominations is Monday, April 5, 2010. That is, nominations must be received at TNG headquarters by that date in order to be judged by the Executive Council.

Given annually for outstanding service to the Guild at the local union level, the Charles B. Dale Guild Service Award is open to local members who serve in an unpaid capacity as local officers or in other responsible local positions.

Its purpose is to recognize and encourage the development of local Guild leadership, and it may be viewed as a counterpart to the Guild's Heywood Broun Award for journalistic achievement. Although both awards are premised on the principle of recognition by one's peers, the procedure for the Charles B. Dale Guild Service Award is somewhat different in that individuals may not nominate themselves. They must be sponsored by their locals and nominated by the local executive board or representative assembly or a general membership meeting. This authority may not be delegated--to units, for example--as some locals have sought to do in the past. Nor may one local nominate a member of another local.

The importance attached to the award by the Guild is second to no other award. TNG-CWA's Sector Executive Council has urged: "every local to give serious consideration to the possibility of nominating someone from its ranks who has demonstrated that quality for which the Award is given--outstanding Guild service on the local level--in order to make the contest a meaningful competition among deserving local leaders." Emphasizing the same

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theme, the judges and Guild conventions have specifically urged more small locals to consider submitting nominations for the Award.

WHAT DOES THE WINNER RECEIVE?

The award is a scholarship of **up to \$2,000** for a course in trade union education "appropriate to the winner." Typically, there are no fees, or minimal ones, for short courses; basically, the scholarship is applied to the costs of room, meals and travel, plus lost time. In some cases, locals have supplemented the scholarship with funds of their own to cover expenses, particularly for a longer course. Recent winners have attended residential courses lasting a week at the AFL-CIO's National Labor College in Silver Spring, Md. just outside Washington, but arrangements can be made for the winner to attend other appropriate labor-education courses in his or her area when available. Note that "up to \$2,000" means that the cost of instruction, room, meals, lost time, etc., up to that amount will be covered by the scholarship. Any lesser costs will not result in a stipend to the winner of the balance.

Judges will be selected from among TNG-CWA Vice Presidents.

A copy of the rules is attached. Your attention is invited to the following points:

- * Eligibility is reserved to local Guild members who, during the past year, have held office or other responsible positions such as unit officer, steward or committee member. In special circumstances, consideration may also be given to persons who can reasonably be expected to assume such office or positions upon completion of their studies. Paid local officials and employees of locals are not eligible.
- * There are no academic requirements.
- * Nominations must include--or be accompanied by--a detailed description of the achievements and qualifications of the candidate. In the past, some locals have neglected to provide the information, with the result that judges had insufficient data on which to evaluate the candidate.

Please contact me if you have any additional questions about the award.

BJL/kmh
Attachment

Rules for Charles B. Dale Guild Service Award

1. TNG-CWA's annual Charles B. Dale Guild Service Award for outstanding local Guild work will take the form of a scholarship of up to \$2,000 for a course in trade-union education appropriate to the winner, to be used within 24 months.
2. Eligible for the award shall be local Guild members who, during the past year, have held local office or other responsible local positions, such as unit officer, steward or committee member. In special circumstances, consideration also will be given to persons who can reasonably be expected to assume such office or positions upon completion of their studies. However, paid officials and employees of local Guilds shall not be eligible.
3. Officers of TNG-CWA shall not be eligible, nor shall members of TNG-CWA's staff.
4. Candidates will be judged on their past achievements and on their ability to profit from such a course of study. There are no academic requirements. Past achievements to be considered in the selection of the winner shall be those accomplished within the framework of the Guild's fundamental purposes, such as organizing, bargaining, development of a strong local, human rights and the like.
5. Candidates must demonstrate that adequate finances are available to them to meet additional costs of the course if they seem likely to exceed \$2,000.
6. Candidates must give satisfactory assurances that, upon completion of the course, they will return to Guild work.
7. Candidates must be sponsored by their local Guilds.
8. Candidates must be in good standing at the time of their nomination. TNG-CWA's Secretary-Treasurer shall certify the eligibility of all nominees.
9. Nomination of candidates shall be made by the executive boards, representative assemblies or general membership of their locals.
10. Nominations shall be made in writing and shall include, or be accompanied by, a detailed description of the achievements and qualification of the candidate.
11. Nominations must be received at TNG-CWA headquarters by Monday, April 5, 2010. They should be sent to the attention of the TNG-CWA President.
12. Nominations will be judged by a committee consisting of TNG-CWA Vice Presidents.

The judges' decision shall be final.