



Annually, thousands of volunteers passionately serve across Southern Arizona to make our community thrive. Nominate a dedicated volunteer whom you know. Invite them and their organization to attend the awards breakfast and be inspired!

**Event Details:** January 18, 2024, 8AM Registration, 8:30AM Program, Tucson Convention Center

## Nomination Guidelines:

- **Nominations are open from July 1, 2023 – July 31, 2023 at 5:00 pm. Deadline is absolute!**
- Nominations are submitted **electronically** at [www.savma.org](http://www.savma.org)
- Essay responses are limited to 1600 characters (approx. 250 words). The concise nomination summary is limited to 800 characters.
- Sponsors will also have the opportunity to submit an individual for public recognition through the Community Service Recognition (CSR) process. This is separate from the nomination process and details will be provided at the time of payment. This process will be open in October.
- For questions about the nomination process or content, please contact the Nomination Chair at [SAVMATucson@gmail.com](mailto:SAVMATucson@gmail.com).

## Award Categories:

1. Program Volunteer of the Year
2. Corporate or Group Volunteerism Award
3. Nonprofit Volunteer Program of the Year
4. Youth Volunteer of the Year - Individual or Group
5. Volunteer Administrator of the Year
6. Board Member of the Year

## Eligibility for All Awards

- Nominee must have performed volunteer service in Pima, Santa Cruz, Graham, Greenlee, or Cochise County within the time period from July 2020 to June 2023. We have made an exception to the typical service period requirements due to pandemic interference with the Awards and Recognition event.
- Nominee must give consent and be consulted for accuracy of information on the nomination.
- One nomination per organization per category is allowed.
- Volunteer service may not include hours served as part of academic credit.
- Hospice volunteer service is allowed.
- The first nomination received for a nominee will be the only one considered.
- Individual award winners must have passed a background check through their volunteer organization.
- Previous awardees are not eligible for nomination.



## Award Categories and Evaluation Criteria

### **Program Volunteer of the Year**

Recognizes an individual whose exceptional service as a direct line of service volunteer to one or various charitable causes improves the quality of life in Southern Arizona, demonstrates leadership in service, and whose volunteerism encourages others to take volunteer leadership roles in the community.

### **Criteria for evaluating nominations for Program Volunteer:**

- Number of volunteer hours served in the nominating year.
- Nominee makes a direct and/or lasting impact in the community or for a cause by their volunteer service.
- Nominee may volunteer with multiple organizations.
- Nominee inspires or motivates other volunteers by their efforts and serves as a role model; nominee may exceed program expectations.
- Nominee's length of commitment is substantial to the community at large.

### **Corporate or Group Volunteerism Award (includes Hospice organizations)**

Recognizes a corporation that has a demonstrated record of outstanding commitment through volunteer support and the creation of a corporate volunteerism culture that encourages and motivates employees/others to take leadership roles, make an impact through service, and be involved in the community.

### **Criteria for evaluating nominations for Corporate or Group Volunteerism:**

- Number of volunteers & volunteer hours served in the nominating year (based on company or group size).
- Nominee's corporate model sets a desired example for volunteer involvement.
- Through volunteerism, the nominee makes a significant and lasting impact upon individuals and the community at large.
- Nominee creates a culture of volunteerism within their corporation that encourages and motivates employees and/or volunteers to make an impact in the community through volunteerism.



## **Nonprofit Volunteer Program of the Year**

Recognizes a nonprofit organization that has demonstrated outstanding impact through their volunteer program and through encouragement and motivation of others to take leadership roles, make an impact in volunteerism and be involved in the community.

### **Criteria for evaluating nominations for Nonprofit Volunteer Program:**

- Number of volunteers & volunteer hours served in the nominating year.
- Nominee promotes a culture of volunteerism which engages and motivates volunteers impacting the community.
- Nominee has established themselves as a role model in volunteerism within their organization and for other organizations.
- Through volunteer service, the nominee has made a direct and lasting impact in the community.

## **Youth Volunteer of the Year – Individual or Group**

Recognizes service by an individual or group of young people under the age of 18 years, who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to the community through volunteerism, development of charitable programs, and leadership in the advancement of the nonprofit sector.

### **Criteria for evaluating nominations for Youth Volunteer:**

- Number of volunteer hours served in the nominating year.
- Nominee had a measurable impact for their organization, community or cause and may exceed program expectations.
- Nominee exhibited exceptional leadership and creativity in their volunteerism and also served as a role model for other youth or adults.



## **Volunteer Administrator of the Year Award**

Recognizes a professional volunteer administrator whose work exemplifies leadership, competence, achievement, ethical standards and commitment to the profession of volunteer management. *Please note: Nominees for this award must be members of the Southern Arizona Volunteer Management Association (individual, organizational, or collegiate).*

### **Criteria for evaluating nominations for Volunteer Administrator:**

- Number of volunteer hours served in the nominating year.
- Nominee embodies professional and ethical standards, models best practices and is effective in volunteer administration/management.
- Nominee models excellence in leadership and creativity in volunteer administration.
- Nominee serves as a role model within the organization and exhibits the spirit of volunteerism in the community.
- Nominees encourages the success and stewardship of colleagues in the volunteer management profession.

## **Board Member of the Year**

Recognizes an individual whose exceptional service as a board member to one or various charitable causes improves the quality of life in Southern Arizona, demonstrates leadership in service, and whose volunteerism encourages others to take volunteer leadership roles in the community.

### **Criteria for evaluating nominations for Board Member:**

- Number of volunteer hours served in the nominating year.
- Nominee makes a significant difference in the community through their personal volunteerism.
- Through their volunteer service, nominee has established a direct and lasting impact on the community or for a cause that has positively affected the lives of many people.
- Nominee inspires, motivates and is a role model for other volunteers within the organization or for a cause, exceeding the organization's expectations.
- Fundraising efforts will not be considered in evaluating this award, but hours spent conducting board service including fundraising activities will be considered. The Association of Fundraising Professionals awards volunteer fundraising.



## About the Selection Process:

Selection for awards is completed by a panel of independent judges. Judges are nominated by the Event Committee members. Judges represent a diverse group of community members and are selected based on their professional experience and commitment to volunteerism. All judges are provided a rubric to evaluate nominations and independently review and score nominations within a set period of time after the closing deadline. Selection is made at a meeting where judges provide feedback, vote, and officially select the award winners. Event Committee members coordinate and oversee the process but do not vote for awardees. Nominators and their honorees will be notified by August 31, 2023.

## Promoting Excellence in the Field of Volunteer Program Management!

The Southern Arizona Volunteer Management Association provides educational programs, conferences, leadership, mentoring, information and resources, networking opportunities and support to the volunteer community throughout Southern Arizona. With four flexible membership categories SAVMA has a place for you and your organization.

## Independent Sector's Value of Volunteer Time

According to the Independent Sector "the latest value of a volunteer hour is \$31.80 – up 6.2% from the previous year. That figure, estimated from data collected in 2022, shows the incredible contributions volunteers make to their communities and our country." We simply would not be the amazing community we are without our volunteers. Come and celebrate their achievement with us!

**Help us celebrate and encourage the value of volunteerism in Southern Arizona by supporting SAVMA and nominating!**