



August 5, 2025 2025th Greater LA Scouting Alumnus of the Year Award



Background

The Scouting America **Council Alumnus of the Year Award** is the Scouting Alumni Association's highest council recognition. The award was established to recognize alumni of Scouting America who, over a sustained period of time, have used the skills and values they learned through their association with Scouting to make significant and long-lasting contributions to their local communities through their careers, avocations, and Scouting.

The **Council Alumnus of the Year Award** is different than other awards in Scouting as it does not simply recognize the individual for being a distinguished person or honor those giving time and energy to Scouting America as a volunteer leader; Scouting already has awards that do that. It is more of a combination of the two. Primary consideration is given to those who remind Scouting alumni to maintain a lifetime relationship with Scouting, which enables Scouting to remain healthy for future generations. In addition, potential recipients of the award may be nominated based on the following three (3) categories:

- **Career and/or avocation**, such as achieving high honor or distinction in their chosen profession.
- **Community service**, including contributions to Scouting or other community efforts or organizations.
- **Scouting promotion**, contributing significantly to the promotion and/or advancement of the Scouting America alumni program and activities at a council level over a sustained period of time through word and/or deed.

Qualifications for Nomination

The following are general guidelines for considering an individual as a candidate for **Greater LA Scouting Alumnus of the Year**. More information is required on the Nomination Form, but these guidelines will help you (and the Alumnus of the Year Sub-committee) determine if an individual could be a viable candidate. The nominee must:

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- Be a Scouting America Alumnus:
 - Which means he or she:
 - Has been positively and personally impacted by Scouting America in some way.
 - Has been a positive impact on others within Scouting America.
 - Alumnus, by definition, means "a former member of a group, company, or organization", as such, the Nominee must:
 - Be an active Registered Scouter in Greater LA Scouting, or
 - Have been a Scout as a youth.
- Have had an impact over a "sustained period".
 - Sustained means: "Continuing for an extended period or without interruption."
- Have used the skills and values they learned through their association with Scouting to make significant and long-lasting contributions to their local communities through their:
 - Careers,
 - Avocations, **and**
 - Scouting.
- Be an individual who reminds other Scouting Alumni to maintain a lifetime relationship with Scouting.

Greater LA Scouting Alumnus of the Year Nomination Process

As this **Alumnus of the Year** honor is a relatively new one for National Scouting America and extremely new for the council (the first **Alumnus of the Year** was in 2020), our process is not as sophisticated as that of legacy honors like District Award of Merit or Silver Beaver. Today, the process is simple. Follow these steps:

Alumnus of the Year Sub-committee Activities

- The Alumnus of the Year Sub-committee, early in the calendar year will:
 - Post an Announcement that "Nominations are now being accepted for the **Alumnus of the Year** Award" to:
 - Councils Website

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- District Websites
- Council Facebook Page
- Distribute Announcements to:
 - District Round Table Commissioners
 - Unit Leaders
 - Council News Blast
- Regularly post notices in the "*Weekly Scouter Update*".
- Begin accepting Nomination Forms.

Scout / Scouter Activities

- Any Registered Scout or Scouter may nominate a candidate.
- More than one (1) candidate may be nominated by an individual or group of individuals, but only one candidate can be approved by the Council in a calendar year.
- If a candidate is not awarded the **Alumnus of the Year** in the year they are nominated, they must be renominated in subsequent year(s) with additional (current) information on the Nomination Form.
- Before nominating a candidate, ask yourself, "does my candidate meet the above "Qualifications for Nomination"?"
- If the answer is Yes:
 - Download the **Greater LA Scouting Alumnus of the Year** Form (link below).
- Complete the form in full. Incomplete forms will receive less consideration than fully completed forms.
- To prevent embarrassment, the candidate should not be notified of the nomination.
 - If the candidate becomes the Council's nominee, is sent to Scouting America Alumni Association Office, and is successfully approved by that office, the Greater LA Scouting Alumnus of the Year Sub-committee will notify the candidate of his/her award.
 - The Alumnus of the Year Sub-committee will also notify nominee's nominator of their successful candidate.

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- Assuming the Alumnus of the Year Sub-committee could receive hundreds of Nomination Forms, nominees of unsuccessful candidates will not be notified.
- Self-nomination is prohibited.
- Members of the Alumnus of the Year Sub-committee are not eligible to be nominated.
- Submit the Nomination Form(s) to the Council Dropbox.
- Key Dates:
 - **Deadline for Nominations** - to be received the Council Alumnus of the Year Sub-committee – **November 1st.**
 - **Greater LA Scouting Alumnus of the Year Sub-committee meeting** – to be determined by the Sub-committee but will be a date mutually agreed to in mid to late November.
 - **Deadline for the council to submit Candidates to National** – December 1st
 - **Nominee to be notified of his/her Award** – January 1st
 - **Presentation of Alumnus of the Year** – Council Annual Recognition Dinner.

GLAAC Alumnus of the Year Approval Process

- The Council Alumnus of the Year Sub-committee meets only once a year at a date mutually agreed upon by the committee in November to review all the candidates.
- The Alumnus of the Year Sub-committee will use the following criteria to evaluate all candidates and recommend only one (1) candidate (per the BSA Alumni Office Rules) to the Scout Executive for approval:
 - Demonstrated advancement of Scouting alumni activities at the council level. (Maximum consideration = 80%).
 - Includes activities, leadership, and specific accomplishments or impact on behalf of Scouting alumni.
 - Contributed significantly through community service to Scouting or other organizations. (Maximum consideration = 10%).

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- High honor or distinction in career or avocation. (Maximum consideration = 10%).
- The council Alumnus of the Year Sub-committee will review the nominations and determine whether and to whom an award will be submitted for approval.
- A maximum of one (1) recipient will be honored per calendar year.

All applications for the Alumnus of the Year must be approved by:

- The Alumnus of the Year Sub-committee.
- Council Scout Executive.

Upon Scout Executive approval, the nomination must be submitted to the BSA Alumni Association. The Nomination Form of the council's chosen candidate must be filed with and approved by Scouting America Alumni Association before the applicant may be recognized as an honoree.

Scouting America Council Alumnus of the Year Website

<https://scoutingalumni.org/awards-and-recognition/council-alumnus-of-the-year/>

Greater LA Scouting Alumnus of the Year Nomination Form

Council Alumnus of the Year Nomination Form

Please consider the following when completing this form:

- The key to the successful nomination is full, complete, and factual information. This form is designed to help both you, the nominator and the GLAAC Alumni Committee select the worthiest of the honorees each year.
- The Nomination Form must be legible. Type-written is recommended, however, if you must submit in handwritten form, **please** print the appropriate information. Dates must be complete, month and year.
 - Illegible content on the Nomination Form will not be considered.

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- If not for you, many volunteers would not be recognized for the service given to the youth of this great Council.

Thank you for taking the time to properly filling out this form!!

Council Alumni of the Year Since Inception

Each Council is entitled to bestow one (1) **Alumnus of the Year** each year. The **Council Alumni of the Year** are as follows:

- 2020 – Robert Scoular
- 2021 – Ross Arnold
- 2022 – Gary Jones
- 2023 – Mike Birkholm
- 2024 – Paul McNulty
- 2025 - ?

Council Alumnus of the Year Sub-committee

- Paul McNulty - Chair
- Michel Birkholm
- Ross Arnold