



Dear NJAM Member:

We are delighted to invite members to submit nominations for the prestigious John Cotton Dana Award. Mr. Dana, who founded the Newark Museum in 1909, was a pioneer in his belief that museums should strive to become a stronger and more enriching presence in people's lives. His progressive philosophy regarding the educational and community service roles of museums still holds true today.

Since the inception of the Dana Award in 1989, the list of its recipients has come to represent New Jersey's outstanding professionals who have made significant contributions to the growth and development of its museums. The Dana Award is presented at NJAM's annual meeting.

The Dana Award is a unique opportunity to collectively recognize the outstanding professionalism of its honorees. We ask you to review the criteria for the award and submit your nominations on the enclosed form.

Submissions must be received no later than **May 1, 2024**, and may be sent via email to nicholas.ciotola@sos.nj.gov **AND** njassociationofmuseums@gmail.com. You will receive a confirmation email when your submission is received.

Your participation will ensure that those museum professionals who work to preserve the quality of New Jersey's museums receive the recognition that they so richly deserve.

Sincerely,

Nicholas P. Ciotola
NJAM Nominating Committee Chair
New Jersey Association of Museums



JOHN COTTON DANA AWARD

Who will be eligible?

Any individual working as a paid professional in an institution within the state of New Jersey which meets the criteria of NJAM of a Museum, an Art Center, an Historic Site, a Science Center, a Children's Museum, a Zoo, an Aquarium, an Arboretum, or Botanical Gardens as defined by the American Association of Museums, the Association of Science-Technology Centers, the Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, or any agency that administers museums or historic sites is eligible to be the recipient of the John Cotton Dana Award.

No currently serving New Jersey Association of Museums (NJAM) board member may be nominated.

Prior recipients of the Dana Award are not eligible.

Criteria:

The recipient will be honored for advancing the service of museums to the region, for demonstrating visionary and innovative leadership and /or exemplifying the highest standards of professional commitment. Special consideration should be given to the achievements of people in mid-career. Selection Process: The award will be determined by the board of the NJ Association of Museums.

How to Make a Nomination:

Any individual member or staff of a member institution of the New Jersey Association of Museums may nominate a candidate for the award. Nominations should be submitted in the form of a letter or application form, in which the nominator documents how the nominee's experience and contributions meet the award criteria. Nominations should be sent to the New Jersey Association of Museums to the attention of the Dana Award Committee.

You will receive an email confirmation when your nomination is received. Please make sure to follow up to confirm receipt of your nomination form.



NJAM 2024 JOHN COTTON DANA AWARD NOMINATION

The John Cotton Dana Award honors any individual, organization, or institution that has advanced the service of museums to the region, demonstrated visionary and innovative leadership and/or has exemplified the highest standards of professional commitment. Special consideration is given to the achievement of people in mid-career.

Name of Nominee: _____

Nominee's position and institution: _____

Brief statement of reason for nomination (attach additional sheets as needed):

Your Name: _____

Your position and institution: _____

Application deadline: **May 1, 2024**. Please email completed application to Nicholas Ciotola, Chair, Nominating Committee at nicholas.ciotola@sos.nj.gov **AND** to the NJAM email address at njassociationofmuseums@gmail.com.

You will receive an email confirmation when your nomination is received. Please make sure to follow up if you do not receive a confirmation receipt for your email.



JOHN COTTON DANA AWARD

Recipients

| | |
|------|---|
| 1989 | Founding Museums: The Montclair Art Museum The Newark Museum Princeton Art Museum New Jersey State Museum |
| 1990 | Mr. Sam Miller |
| 1991 | Ms. Ann Fabbri |
| 1992 | Mr. John Petersen |
| 1993 | Ms. Nancy B. Gay |
| 1994 | Ms. Cynthia Koch |
| 1995 | Mr. Daniel Reibel |
| 1996 | Ms. Leah Slosberg |
| 1997 | Mr. Zoltan Buki |
| 1998 | Dr. B. Michael Zuckerman |
| 1999 | Mr. Barry Taylor |
| 2000 | Ms. Gail Stern |
| 2001 | Ms. Sara Riviera Cureton |
| 2002 | Ms. Mary Sue Sweeney Price |
| 2003 | Dr. Emlyn H. Koster |
| 2004 | Ms. Rebecca A. Buck |
| 2005 | Mr. James F. Turk, Ph. D. |
| 2006 | Mr. Ulysses Dietz |
| 2007 | Ms. Twig Johnson |
| 2008 | Mr. Steve Miller |
| 2009 | Ms. Ann Marie Miller |
| 2010 | Mr. Peter Watson |
| 2011 | Ms. Michelle Ortwein |
| 2013 | Ms. Claudia Ocello |
| 2015 | Ms. Gail Stavitsky |
| 2017 | Ms. Patricia Anne Salvatore |
| 2019 | Mr. Ralph E. Hunter, Sr. |
| 2022 | Ms. Shirley Thomas |



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Sierra Van Ryck deGroot, Museum Hue

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