

The Roy L. Shafer Leading Edge Awards are presented annually to ASTC members and/or their employees in recognition of extraordinary accomplishments—in Visitor Experience, Business Practice, and Leadership in the Field—that not only enhance the performance of their own institutions, but also significantly advance the mission of science centers and museums. A new award category for 2019, The Overcomer, celebrates one ASTC-member science center or museum that has successfully surmounted a significant and specific challenge.

The Roy L. Shafer Leading Edge Award for **Leadership in the Field** recognizes up to two individuals annually: one who serves in the chief executive leadership role (CEO/executive director) of an ASTC-member institution and one who serves another, non-chief executive role at an ASTC-member institution. Nominations will be judged according to the individual's degree of success at 1) applying new ideas and/or enhancing best practices; 2) embodying ASTC core values such as collaboration; forward-looking leadership; diversity, accessibility, inclusion, and equity; creativity; and the joy of experiential learning; and 3) demonstrating the potential to inspire and nurture creative thinking. The individual's success at having a tangible and lasting impact on the organization's mission; building relationships for his or her institution within the community; and developing the current talents/capabilities and nurturing the future capacity of staff will also be considered.

Eligibility: Individuals with an exemplary accomplishment in the past three years (since January 2016) who are employed by ASTC-member institutions in good standing are eligible. Each nominating institution is limited to one nomination per category per year. Nomination forms must be signed by the institution's chief executive officer, board chairperson, or equivalent. Nominations from the home institution of a Leading Edge Awards jury member will not be considered.

Selection: A jury of professionals knowledgeable about the science center field, representing a broad spectrum of ASTC's worldwide membership, will review entries and select finalists. Once detailed nomination information is submitted, the jury will review all finalists and select awardees. All decisions of the jury are final, including the decision not to choose an award recipient in a given category.

Awards Ceremony and Recognition: The 2019 Leading Edge Awards will be presented during the ASTC Annual Conference in Toronto, Ontario, Canada (September 20–24). Each award will consist of a crystal "Edgie" award trophy and a complimentary full conference registration to the 2019 ASTC Annual Conference (fees for special events, tours, and workshops are not included). Awardees will receive recognition in *Dimensions* magazine, on the ASTC website, and in ASTC's social media. Awardees will also receive a special award-winner logo to display on their website or other promotional material, and a press release to assist them in publicizing their recognition.

Deadline: Friday, May 31, 2019. Nomination forms and supporting materials should be emailed to awards@astc.org or mailed to Roy L. Shafer Leading Edge Awards, Association of Science-Technology Centers, 818 Connecticut Avenue NW, 7th Floor, Washington, DC 20006-2734, U.S.A.

NOMINATION FORM AND CHECKLIST

- Check here to confirm that the nominee’s exemplary accomplishment occurred in the past three years (since January 2016).

- Category** (*choose one*)

___ Nominee serves in the chief executive leadership role of an ASTC-member institution

___ Nominee serves another, non-chief executive role at an ASTC-member institution

- Nominee Information**

Name of nominee: _____

Position/title: _____

Name of ASTC-member institution: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

- Narrative to Support Your Nomination**

Narratives should be no more than five double-spaced pages in 12-point font. Please adhere to page limits. Jury members may not read your narrative beyond the five-page limit.

Each narrative must address the required criteria (#1, #2, and #3). Bulleted points can be addressed as appropriate for additional support of the nomination.

Use a specific exemplary accomplishment since January 2016 to describe the nominee’s degree of success during the last three years at

1. applying new ideas and/or enhancing best practices
2. embodying ASTC core values such as collaboration; forward-looking leadership; diversity, accessibility, inclusion, and equity; creativity; and the joy of experiential learning
3. demonstrating the potential to inspire and nurture creative thinking
 - having a tangible and lasting impact on the organization’s mission
 - building relationships for his or her institution within the community
 - developing the current talents/capabilities and nurturing the future capacity of staff.

Letters of Support

Include no more than two letters of support (one page each) from individuals with first-hand knowledge of the nominee's work. Review of supporting items is at the discretion of the jury. If more than two items are submitted, additional items will be discarded. Please submit items electronically to awards@astc.org. If these materials cannot be submitted electronically, mail one set to ASTC to be made available at the jury review session.

For nominations of chief executives, please ensure that letters of support come from independent sources. For nominations of non-chief executives, one letter from the chief executive of the nominee's institution is required. An additional letter of support should come from an independent source.

Letters of support must address the following:

- Explain your relationship to the nominee and describe his/her exemplary accomplishment during the past three years that is the basis of your nomination.
- Describe why you think this accomplishment deserves recognition.
- List the most significant benefits of the nominee's accomplishment, as you see them.

- Check here to grant permission to distribute information about your nomination to the science center field. Information will not be used for commercial purposes without permission of the chief executive of the science center or museum.
- By checking this box, I consent to receive ASTC communications, and to ASTC storing and processing my contact and membership data in order to maintain communications with me. I understand that I may unsubscribe from any subscription at any time by using the "unsubscribe" link provided at the bottom of each email or by writing info@astc.org, and that I can view ASTC's [privacy policy](#) on its website at any time.
- This nomination is supported by the chief executive officer, chairperson of the board, or equivalent representative of the nominating institution (signature below).

Print name: _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Jury Criteria Checklist

This checklist is to help guide your application focus and materials. In addition to overall eligibility criteria (see page 1), the jury will emphasize the following characteristics in choosing an award winner:

- Has the individual demonstrated tangible success at applying new ideas and/or enhancing best practices?
- Does the individual embody ASTC core values such as collaboration; forward-looking leadership; diversity, accessibility, inclusion, and equity; creativity; and the joy of experiential learning?
- Has the individual demonstrated the potential to inspire and nurture creative thinking?
- Has the individual demonstrated success in having a tangible and lasting impact on the organization's mission?
- Has the individual built relationships for his or her institution within the community?
- Has the individual developed the current talents/capabilities and nurtured the future capacity of staff?