

Established in 1957, The Red Jacket Award is presented by The Buffalo History Museum in recognition of “quiet, continued, unbroken devotion to our civic progress and needs by one who, through such devotion, has thereby enlarged our awareness of our heritage in order that it may be built upon for the enrichment of our future.”

The award is named after the renowned orator and Seneca leader, Sagoyewatha, or Red Jacket. In 1792, President George Washington presented Red Jacket with the medal after which our award is modeled. The Red Jacket Medal is one of the most treasured items in our collection and is exhibited in the John R. Oishei Native American Gallery. Nearly seven inches tall, the medal bears symbolic imagery of peaceful coexistence between United States and Native Americans.

The tradition of The Red Jacket Award is inspired by the imperative to continue to acknowledge those who, with steady service, strive to support the connections in our region with our heritage.

The following should guide you in your nominations:

- Emphasis should be placed on recognition of a continuum of quiet, unbroken devotion to our civic progress that enlarges awareness of our heritage and enriches our community.
- Through community leadership, the nominee makes a positive impact to our social well-being, or history is created.
- The award may be given for civic achievement and service in any category.
- Though elected officials may be considered, the award may only be given when the recipient no longer holds elected public office.
- Board members of The Buffalo History Museum will be considered when his/her term of service ends.
- Special consideration and emphasis should be placed on community service and civic contributions outside of the candidate’s professional career.

Please note nominees are not to be told they are under consideration.



Red Jacket Award

Nominations must be submitted online and are due by 11:59pm on Friday, March 28, 2025. Click [here](#) to nominate. If you have any questions on the online tool or nominations process, please contact Katie McIntyre, Director of Advancement, kmcintyre@buffalohistory.org, 716.873.9644, ext. 344

Please note: the online software does not permit you to save and return to edit your nomination later. You may find it beneficial to work on your application in a separate document and upload your responses at once.

1. Nominee Contact Information

- Nominee Name
- Nominee Occupation/Job title
- Company
- Nominee Address
- Nominee City/Town
- Nominee State/Province
- Nominee ZIP/Postal Code
- Nominee Email
- Nominee Phone Number

2. Years you've known nominee

3. Your relationship to the nominee (i.e. professional colleague, volunteer colleague, friend- be specific).

4. Please list civic organizations (ie, cultural, education/youth, health care, community development) that the nominee has been involved with on a volunteer level. List the nominee's role and year(s) served to the best of your knowledge.

5. Beyond financial contributions, please provide examples of the candidate's demonstrated positive impact to our social well being or historic legacy. How has the nominee exhibited traits of a social philanthropist?

6. Optional: In your own words, why is the nominee worthy of this award?

7. Your Contact Information

- Name
- Occupation/Job title
- Company
- Address
- City/Town
- State/Province
- ZIP/Postal Code
- Email
- Phone Number

2024
Scott and Kathy Bieler
2023
Alfred Price (posthumously) Mary Wilson
2022
Shelley Drake
Casimiro Rodriguez
2021
Clifford Bell
2020
Jake & Katie Schneider
2019
Ruth D. Bryant
Catherine F. Schweitzer
2018
Holly Augspurger Donaldson
Jonathan L. White
2017
Eva M. Doyle
2016
John & Carol Kociela
Stanford Lipsey
2015
Burton Notarius (posthumously)
Eugene Vukelic
2014
Mary Ann Kresse
2013
James L. Magavern, Esq.
Edward F. Walsh, Jr.
2012
Clement & Karen Arrison
Thomas R. Beecher, Jr.
2011
Cindy Abbott Letro
John N. Walsh, III

2010
Christopher T. Greene
Finley R. Greene (posthumously)
Wayne D. Wisbaum
2009
Dr. V. Roger Lalli
Maryann Saccomando Freedman
2008
JoAnn Falletta
Edwin T. Bean, Jr.
2007
Hon. George K. Arthur
Herbert Hauptman, Ph.D.
2006
Richard C. Marcus
2005
Hon. John T. Curtin
Sister Denise Roche
James M. Wadsworth
2004
Arnold B. Gardner
Justice Ann T. Mikoll
Richard & Karen Penfold
2003
William R. Greiner
Hon. John J. LaFalce
J. Warren Perry
2002
Robert J.A. Irwin
Frank B. Mesiah
2001
Sue S. Gardner
Kevin P. Gaugha
1999
Calvin Rand
Charles Rand Penney

1998	D. Bruce & Gail Johnstone	1986	Seymour Knox III
1997	William G. Gisell		Northrup Knox
1996	Joan Bozer	1985	Father James Demske
1995	David W. Rumsey	1984	Cecilia Evans Taylor
1994	Robert G. Wilmers	1983	Manly Fleischmann
1993	Max B.E. Clarkson	1982	Ralph Loew
	William M.E. Clarkson	1981	Peter G. Economou
1992	Jesse E. Nash, Jr.	1980	Frank G. Evans & Lydia T. Wright
	Mary Kent-Prentice	1979	Elisabeth L. Petri
1991	Robert J. Kresse	1978	Robert B. Adam
	Robert L. Wilson	1977	Mason O. Damon
	Edward F. Walsh	1976	Katherine & Franz T. Stone
	John N. Walsh, Jr.	1975	William C. Baird
1990	Paul A. Schoellkopf, Jr.	1974	Julia B. Reinstein
	Margaret G. Swift	1973	Frank A. Sedita
1989	Robert D. Fernbach, Sr.	1972	Charles H. Diefendorf
1988	Robert E. Rich, Sr.		
1987	John W. Koessler		
	Paul J. Koessler, Sr.		