

LEADERSHIP AWARDS

The James Beard Foundation's Leadership Awards spotlight the important and complex realms of sustainability, food justice, and public health. They raise awareness of these timely issues by celebrating the visionaries responsible for creating a healthier, safer, and more equitable and sustainable food system.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Anyone can submit a candidate for consideration during the online open call for recommendations starting October 1, 2019. There is no entry fee. Additional nominations are solicited from past Leadership Award honorees.
2. Must be for an individual, not a company/organization/corporation, but may be in recognition of the work the individual performs on behalf of a company/organization/corporation.
3. Individuals recommended may work domestically and/or internationally, but must be based in the United States.
4. Candidates can be:
 - From any background: corporation, farm, educational institution, government, advocacy, journalism, etc.
 - Do not need to be national or international food system “celebrities” to be recognized with this award. The impact of the work is what matters.
 - Of any age, and at any stage of their career.

**ENTRY
DEADLINE:**

**12.01.2019
11:59:00 PM
Eastern Time**

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Honoree Selection and Judging

1. The Leadership Awards committee reviews recommendations to create a ballot of top nominees. Previous Leadership Award honorees, 15 judges selected by the committee, and the James Beard Awards Committee vote. The results from the vote are reviewed by the committee to confirm the final slate of honorees, which is announced in a press release in April. The separate Leadership Awards ceremony and dinner is held in Chicago during the James Beard Awards weekend in May.
2. Five honorees are selected each year. In the case when the work of the honoree is most fairly attributed to more than one person, each will be named collectively as the honoree. One of the five awards can specifically highlight a person or collective who is at the beginning of their career but already doing significant work.

Categories

There are no categories for the Leadership Awards. Honorees are selected because their work has had a lasting and impactful change on our food system across a wide range of areas, including but not limited to:

- Chef Advocacy
- Culinary Literacy
- Environmental Sustainability
- Fair Trade Food
- Farm Advocacy
- Food Access
- Food Safety
- Food Sovereignty
- Foundation or Corporate Leadership
- Indigenous Rights
- Journalism
- Nutrition / Public Health
- Research / Academic
- Youth Leadership
- Other (please specify)

Prizes

1. Leadership Award honorees receive a silver medallion engraved with the James Beard Foundation Awards insignia as well as a certificate.
2. In 2020, the James Beard Foundation is offering honorees cash prizes of \$10,000 to continue their work.