



Send in Your DAPHNE-NORMA LEADERSHIP AWARD Nominations Soon!

History

Your assistance is needed in selecting a person or couple for the Daphne-Norma Leadership Award, which is presented each year at Dance-O-Rama. The Western NY Federation of Round and Square Dance Clubs, Inc. sponsors Dance-O-Rama, but it does not govern, sponsor or present the Daphne-Norma Award. It is governed by and presented by the award's Selection Committee. The committee needs you to nominate people you feel meet the criteria for the Award.

Award Guidelines

The Daphne-Norma Leadership Award was established in 1977 by John Fink and Frank Salvaggio, in honor of their wives, Daphne and Norma. The purpose of the award is to show appreciation for **EXTENSIVE AND SUSTAINED LEADERSHIP OVER AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF YEARS** in the activities of square, round or contra dancing. Leadership, service and motivation are considered when evaluating candidates for this award. A candidate need not demonstrate leadership in all areas, nor is each area given equal consideration. Areas of leadership may include (but are not limited to) years of dancing, cueing or calling; membership; committee service or officer role in any of the following: Square, Round or Contra dancing club; Rochester Area Federation; Promenader; Dance-O-Rama; NYS or national associations; promoting the activity through calling, cueing, teaching, angelling, and other leadership roles which benefit the community through the activity of dancing; and finally, the candidate's attitude and continuing willingness to take on responsibilities in the dancing community. An individual or couple may receive the award only once. The award may not be given in a year when the Selection Committee unanimously agrees no one has met the criteria. Anyone in the dancing community is welcome to nominate people for the Leadership Award.

Questions You Might Have...

Q: Who is the Selection Committee? The award originators initially functioned as the permanent Selection Committee Advisors. But with time, the advisors needed to select their replacements. In 2017 Betty & Andy Ludwick passed the honor to Sharon & Chuck Meyer, and in March 2025 Sally Baechle passed the honor to Debbie & Jeff Blood. Also in 2025, it was determined the advisors term on the committee would be limited to 5 years. Each year the selection committee is made up of the most recent three recipients along with the chosen advisors.

Q: How do people get nominated for the award?

Anyone in the dance community can submit a nomination. This is done by sending information about the candidate's qualifications to the Selection Committee before the end of February each year. You may use the nomination form on this website or send an email that has the same information.

Q: What is the status of people previously nominated, but not selected? Candidates previously nominated generally stay in consideration for future years, allowing for additional information about their service to accumulate. There is nothing wrong with sending in another nomination with updated info and encouraging others to add their nominations as well.

Ballot information

Please download, complete, and submit the ballot from this website, including as much of the following as you are aware of:

- 1) Name and address of recommended couple
- 2) Years of dancing, calling and/or cueing
- 3) Club participation, offices held, etc.
- 4) Participation in local, state and national organizations (both dance-related and other)
- 5) Other leadership roles (not only dancing but community service)
- 6) Miscellaneous information (anything else that might be relevant)

And be sure to include your own name, club, and e-mail and/or phone.

Your INPUT is very important! TELL US ABOUT the person or couple you wish to nominate by submitting a ballot — the sooner, the better!