



Colorado Open Space Alliance 2017 Blue Grama Awards Nominations Rules

Every year the Colorado Open Space Alliance (COSA) acknowledges outstanding projects through the Blue Grama (Colorado's State grass) awards. We are asking you to nominate programs and people within the following four categories:

- 1&2) Outstanding Achievement for organization and individual;
- 3) Outdoor Recreation/Environmental Education Program; and
- 4) Ecological Management Program.

Awards will be presented at the COSA annual conference in Breckenridge, September 18 – 20, 2017.

Included below are the nomination rules for this year's awards. The same nomination information is posted at the COSA website--<http://www.coloradoopenspace.org/>.

The Gramas are different from the Colorado Lottery's Starburst Conservation Awards for land acquisition and park development projects.

AWARD CATEGORIES:

(1) (2) **Outstanding Achievement Award** – One award is given to an individual and a second to a group or organization that have made significant contributions to conservation of Colorado's open spaces. Nominees should have made a contribution recognized throughout the State of Colorado, an accomplishment with impact beyond the individual's organization or agency. Nominees should show outstanding leadership achievement through acquisition, land management actions, or public policy.

(3) **Outdoor Recreation/Environmental Education Program** – Given to an open space program that shows innovation and leadership in the area of Outdoor Recreational Management and/or Environmental Education/Interpretation. Recognizes outstanding, innovative and successful recreational management programs such as facilities development, conflict resolution, recreation monitoring, ranger activities, environmental

education/interpretation, or the application of research findings (such as through evaluation of carrying capacity, pet management, etc.).

(4) **Ecological Management Program** – Given to an open space program that has demonstrated leadership in the area of Ecological Management. Recognizes outstanding, innovative and successful research, restoration, or monitoring programs targeted at ecological resource management.

RULES:

- **Applications must be received no later than Friday, August 18, 2017.**
- Submit nominations in format prescribed below.
- Documentation **should not exceed 3 pages.**
- Applications should be sent electronically in Word format to Linda Strand at LJeanStrand@comcast.net and please put Blue Gramas in the subject line.
- Include an executive summary, not exceeding 50 words, with your packet that may be read at the banquet, and used in summarizing the nominees.
- The Awards Chair will contact you regarding the status of your nomination after the Awards Committee has selected the winners.

Please include in your application:

Entity/Government Agency:

Contact Person:

Title:

Address:

City or Town/Zip Code:

Telephone:

FAX Number:

E-mail address:

Attach **up to two** additional double spaced sheets to respond to the following:

- 1) Give the name of the program or person/group and the award category for which they are being nominated.
- 2) Describe the project or person/group accomplishments.
- 3) **Using the criteria below as headers,** describe how the program or person/group meets the following criteria
 - a. Makes creative use of public resources;
 - b. Facilitates a long-term solution for the protection of natural and recreational resources; is the program ongoing or a one time effort.
 - c. Protects open space values.
 - d. Provides recognized public benefits. If this is a recreation/education project, include participation estimate and targeted audience size and profile.
 - e. Forges important partnerships. (with other agencies, volunteers, youth corps, etc)
 - f. Influences or is directly applicable other open space or parks programs.

- 4) Attach with your application **one** electronic photo of your program or person/group, to potentially be used for promotional materials. (tif, eps or jpgs files under 5 megabytes are preferred)
- 5) If the nomination is related to a specific site, please include a map or driving directions to the site.

RELEASE: I confirm that the information in this Blue Grammas Award application is accurate to the best of my knowledge; that the photo included in this application is the property of my agency; and that all necessary release forms from the photographer(s) and the subject(s) in these photos have been obtained. I authorize the COSA to use the information and photo for promotion.

Signed:

Date:

Title: