



Mountain Heritage Awards – 2023 Call for Nominations

Are you proud of your mountain heritage? Is there someone in your life who inspired that pride? Do you know a person or organization whose research or service makes a difference in the community? If you answered yes, consider submitting a Mountain Heritage Day Awards nomination to recognize their outstanding contributions to the preservation or interpretation of the history of Southern Appalachia.

For nearly 50 years, Western Carolina University has recognized regional artists, nonprofit leaders, and an array of organizations for their commitment to our Appalachian culture. A committee of community and campus representatives choose award winners. The deadline for 2023 nominations is **Monday, July 17 by 5 p.m.** Winners receive an engraved commemorative plaque in a public ceremony at Mountain Heritage Day, held this year on Saturday, September 30.

There are two award categories: Individual award winners include musicians Gar Mosteller and Doyle Barker, visual artist Ann Miller Woodford, and, last year, Louise Goings and Butch Goings, of Cherokee, North Carolina. The Goings' are artisans and cultural preservationists of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians who continue a strong family tradition of cultural preservation and community service.

Previous recipients of the organizational award include the Cherokee artists' cooperative Qualla Arts and Crafts Mutual, Inc., the Tried Stone Missionary Baptist Church, and, most recently in 2022, Cowee School Arts and Heritage Center in Macon County, North Carolina. Cowee School was built with native stone in 1943 on the site of a former Civilian Conservation Corps camp and served families and children as a public school for 69 years. Since 2012, it has served residents and visitors as an arts and heritage center.

For more information about the history of the festival and the award visit mountainheritageday.com Nominations can be submitted electronically.

Mountain Heritage Awards 2023 Nomination Form

Since 1976 Western Carolina University has recognized those who make outstanding contributions to the preservation or interpretation of the history and culture of Southern Appalachia through the **Mountain Heritage Day Awards**. Nominations may also include those who research contemporary regional issues.



What should the nomination include? *(In less than 5 printed pages, excluding photos)*

1. Outline the nominee's accomplishments
2. Describe the nominee's impact on their field, such as crafts, music, or a social or environmental cause
3. Explain the nominee's role as a teacher, advocate, leader or preserver of mountain culture and heritage
4. List the nominee's awards or other recognitions
5. Provide links to online support materials (optional)



How to submit the nomination? Please email your nomination including this form to mhd@wcu.edu with "Award 23" in the subject line no later than **Monday JULY 17, 2023** by 5PM.

Then what? You will receive a confirmation receipt via email. A panel of five volunteer cultural leaders and academics will review all nominations. Award winners will be announced on Saturday September 30, 2023, during Mountain Heritage Day at Western Carolina University. See mountainheritageday.com for more details.

Nominator *(That's you)* contact information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Nominee *(shhhh it's a secret)* contact information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Which award? *(Only one)* Individual Organization