

CONSTANCE MARKIEVICZ AWARD

PURPOSE

Section 1. The Constance Markievicz Award will be bestowed biennially at the LAOH Interim Board Meeting to a woman who is outstanding, passionate, and shows a deep commitment in her endeavors, either professionally or in volunteer works. The Constance Markievicz Award will be conferred without regard to the nominee's race, creed, religion, color or National origin.

ELIGIBILITY

Section 2. The nominee must be a woman who, in the spirit of unity and cross community relationships, has made significant and committed contributions to peace and justice, and/or the social and economic wellbeing of her community and/or the broader world in which we live. This includes, but is certainly not limited to, political activism, social justice, immigration and immigrant issues, political education, veteran affairs, and peace and reconciliation in Ireland.

NOMINATION PROCESS

Section 3. Any member in good standing of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. may enter a nomination. That nomination must be approved by the Division President, the County President, and sent to the State President. It is the responsibility of the member nominating and the Division President to fully vet the candidate prior to submission to the County and State Presidents. The nomination process requires the following completed documents:

- A. Completed nomination form that bears the State President's signature.
- B. A biographical sketch of the nominee, not to exceed 500 words, that summarizes how the nominee meets the standards of eligibility. Every effort should be made to submit at least one (1), but no more than three (3) application(s) per State.
- C. The deadline for the submission of the nomination form to the Award Committee is June 30th.

SELECTION COMMITTEE PROCESS

Section 4. The selection process shall be as follows:

- A. The National Vice President shall serve as the Chair of the Selection Committee.
- B. Voting members of the Selection Committee shall be as follows: National Board Officers and State Presidents.
- C. The Nomination materials shall be mailed to State Presidents in April. States will set their own timelines to accommodate the Award Committee timelines.
- D. The Nomination materials and ballots shall be forwarded to voting members of the committee by July 30th.
- E. The Chair of the Selection Committee shall appoint a neutral Election Judge.
- F. The Selection Committee Chair shall first notify the National President of The Constance Markievicz Award recipient, followed by the State President of the recipient, and then the recipient herself. A press release will be forwarded to the *Lady Hibernian Herald* and Assistant Editor of *The National Hibernian Digest* and any other appropriate wire services announcing the winner of The Constance Markievicz Award.
- G. The Constance Markievicz Award will be presented at the biennial LAOH Interim Board Meeting.
- H. The Award recipient shall be reimbursed for 2 nights room and travel expenses incurred if she is able to attend the biennial LOAH Interim Board Meeting to receive her award.

VOTING PROCESS

Section 5. The Chair of the Selection Committee shall mail to Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc National Board Officers and State Presidents the following documents:

- A. A copy of the completed nomination form signed by the nominee's State President.
- B. A copy of the nominee's biographical sketch.
- C. A ballot that requires each voting member to vote for one candidate.

Section 6. Voting may be done by submitting a paper ballot or by submitting an email ballot.

Section 7. The election will be completed on or before September 15th.

Section 8. The nominee with the highest number of votes will be declared the Constance Markievicz Award recipient.