

THE J. NED CULLER AWARD FOR MASONIC EXCELLENCE



Freemasonry, at its heart, is an educational institution. Upon his Raising, every Freemason begins a search for light that takes his entire lifetime and beyond to find. Searching for light means a quest to become more knowledgeable about the Craft, our world, and our inner self. The search means we must be involved in education. The J. Ned Culler Award is given to a Brother who has attained a high degree of excellence in our ritual, Masonic Education, or service to his Lodge, and has dedicated his Masonic life to the betterment of the Lodge and brother Masons through education, research, demonstrated mentoring, and furthering of the lofty goals of our Ancient Craft.

In every generation, there appear among us giants among men who shape and alter the world around them in a highly positive way. J. Ned Culler was one of those giants. He helped and nurtured Masons who firmly believe in the value of Masonic Education and the effect that Masonic Education has on leadership. Brother Ned once said that “leadership is education and education is leadership.” Brother Ned’s life was centered on the precepts so eloquently put forth in our Ritual. He firmly believed in performing excellent ritual work and living out the meaning of the Ritual in his daily life.

James Ned Culler lived out this creed with the utmost humility and distinction. He brought to light the essence of Freemasonry and has led many of the Craft’s leaders to be involved in “higher thoughts and greater achievements.” He stood as a beacon of light for Masonic Education throughout his 40 year Masonic journey. It is a good and proper thing we do to pay homage to this outstanding man and Mason.

Award Criteria

- The *nominator*, a Master Mason in good standing, may be from a Lodge other than Tuckahoe.
- The *nominee* must have been a member of Tuckahoe Lodge, in good standing, for a minimum of 10 years - no exceptions.
- The *nominee* must have lead, actively participated in, or demonstrated skill in two or more of the following areas:
 - Lodge Masonic Education Programs.
 - Grand Lodge Leadership Correspondence Courses.
 - Mentoring one or more Brothers in the catechism of the degrees.
 - Leadership role in and support of Lodge activities and events.
 - Knowledge and presentation of Masonic ritual.

The Nomination

A 2-part application form:

Part I consists of a brief biographical sketch of the nominee.

Part II provides a description of why the Brother is deserving of this award.

Selection Process

- Completed nomination forms must be forwarded to the Chair of the Award Review Committee no later than the date of the October Stated Communication of the Lodge. Nominations will then be reviewed by all members of the Award Review Committee.
- The Award Review Committee shall consist of all previous recipients of the J. Ned Culler Award.
- In the event that more than one nomination is submitted and the committee is tied in their decision, the Committee Chair shall have one additional vote.
- The award may be presented at a Stated Communication of Tuckahoe Lodge, or at a public event if so desired by the Worshipful Master or his designee.
- The J. Ned Culler Award shall be awarded to only one Brother during a Masonic year. It is not to be awarded if there is no qualified candidate presented for consideration.

Award Design

The award presented to the recipient shall be of a unique crystal design as shown below.



A separate plaque, of appropriate design, shall be prepared noting all of the award recipients and displayed prominently in the Lodge.



Nomination Forms

J. NED CULLER AWARD FOR MASONIC EXCELLENCE

PART I

Nominee's Name: _____ Phone #: () _____

Address _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Lodge: _____ District: : _____

E-Mail: _____

Please provide a brief biographical summary of your nominee's Masonic history, offices held, and any other information that will assist the award review committee in their consideration of this application.

Part II –

Write a description of why this Brother is deserving of the J. Ned Culler Award. The narrative should focus on accomplishments in Masonic Education, Leadership Skills, living out the Ritual in his daily life; also, how he influenced and guided others in his Masonic journey. Include any additional information you feel is pertinent. This description is very important in that it will form the basis of the final consideration and selection.

Name of brother submitting this form: _____

Phone #: (____)_____ Member of Lodge # _____ District _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Date: _____