



MARINE CORPS HERITAGE FOUNDATION

2027 ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAM

Submission Guidelines

About the Awards Program

The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation Annual Awards Program recognizes outstanding individuals whose work preserves, promotes, and shares the history, traditions, and legacy of the United States Marine Corps. Through journalism, literature, photography, film, scholarship, fine art, and other creative works, the program celebrates excellence in preserving the Marine Corps story for future generations.

General Submission Information

Submissions for the **2027 Marine Corps Heritage Foundation Annual Awards Program** will be accepted **September 15, 2026 through December 15, 2026**. All entries must be submitted through the online Awards Portal by the published deadline.

Applicants may submit up to three entries total, but only within one award category per program year. Submission requirements **and eligibility periods** vary by category, and applicants should carefully review [category-specific guidelines](#) before submitting.

To ensure equitable review and manage submission volume, the following literary award categories are limited to a **maximum of eight total submissions per category**:

- The Colonel Joseph Alexander Award
- The General Wallace M. Greene Jr. Award
- The Eugene Sledge Award
- The James Webb Award
- The Robert A. Gannon Award

A submission is considered complete only when **both the online entry form and all required supporting materials have been received**. For categories requiring physical materials (such as book submissions), physical copies should be submitted **in close coordination with the online entry**, so the full submission package is received together and can be advanced for review without delay.

General Eligibility

To be eligible for consideration, submissions must meet the eligibility requirements for the selected award category. **Eligible works must have been published, produced, or otherwise made publicly available during the preceding three calendar years. For the 2027 Awards Program, eligible works must have been completed between January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2026.** Eligibility may also include format, subject matter, or other category-specific requirements.

Entries may be submitted by the creator, publisher, producer, organization, or a third-party nominator, unless otherwise specified. All required materials must be received by the submission deadline to be considered.

In cases where a single work is submitted or nominated in multiple award categories, program staff may review the entry and, when appropriate, contact the creator or submitting party to confirm the most suitable category for evaluation. Final category placement will be determined in consultation with the entrant to ensure the work is reviewed in the most appropriate context.

Submission Requirements

Most submissions require:

- A completed online entry form including:
 - A brief overview (one page or less) describing the work, its significance, and why it should be considered for the award
 - Contact information for the entrant and creator (if different).
- Supporting materials in the format specified for the category (PDF, video link, images, hard-copy books, etc.) if applicable

Please review the specific requirements for each [award category](#) before submitting, as formats and supporting materials vary.

Evaluation Criteria

While judging criteria vary slightly by category, entries are generally evaluated on:

- Originality and creativity
- Overall quality of the work
- Contribution to preserving and promoting Marine Corps history, traditions, culture, or service
- Technical excellence appropriate to the medium

A sample grading rubric can be found [here](#).

Submissions are reviewed by independent volunteer subject-matter experts selected for their professional experience, academic expertise, and/or demonstrated knowledge relevant to the category being evaluated. Judges represent a range of backgrounds, including military history, publishing, journalism, the arts, and related fields.

Each submission is evaluated independently against established criteria for its category. Judging is conducted to ensure fairness, consistency, and the integrity of the awards process.

Award Selection and Results

Each award category is intended to recognize a single outstanding work. Under normal circumstances, one award winner will be granted per category.

The Awards Committee may, at its discretion, withhold an award in a given category if no submission meets the established standards for excellence.

Before You Submit

Please ensure:

- Your submission meets all eligibility requirements
- All required supporting materials are included
- Digital files and links are accessible, including passwords if applicable
- Books and other physical materials are shipped according to program instructions, when applicable.
- Contact information is accurate in case additional information is needed.

Questions about eligibility or submissions may be directed to the Awards Program staff at awards@marineheritage.org prior to submitting your entry.