



**ACA New England Awards**  
**Concept Approved by ACA New England Board of Directors**  
**January 2017**

**ACA New England Presidential Honor** – On rare occasions a member of our community exceeds our expectations in his/her commitment to the organization. This award represents a unique opportunity to recognize an individual whose work for the benefit of camping and ACA New England has had a profound impact. This award honors a member who has dedicated the majority of his/her life or career to the camping industry. The recipient's remarkable service is acknowledged as unusually devoted, outstanding, selfless and noteworthy in ACA New England. The recommendation is this is given selectively when no other award is appropriate because service exceeds all other qualifications.

Recipients should:

- Be over 50
- A current or past member of ACA for minimum of 10 years
- Be a leader in camping for at least 20 years.
- Have served as President, Board of Directors member, or Chair of a committee.

**Distinguished Service –**

The Distinguished Service Award is the highest honor regularly given by ACA New England. It is awarded to an individual who has given outstanding leadership and service to ACA New England for at least 12 years. It is easily recognized that no other award would do justice to the magnitude of this nominee's contributions. This volunteer has devoted time above and beyond the normal volunteer commitment. Recipient should be a current or past member of ACA for a minimum of 8 years. The recommendation is to give no more than one Distinguished Service Award annually.

Criteria:

Outstanding leadership/service for at least 12 years as evidenced by 2 or more of the following:

- Sustained impactful commitment to ACA NE that goes above and beyond expectations of volunteerism.
- Vision and achievement as a leader who has been instrumental in transforming the camp experience in New England.
- Contributions impact to the broader camp community, not just individual camp, program, etc.
- Provides volunteer leadership that significantly contributes to the advancement of the ACA New England mission.

**Community Honor Award**

This award is given for outstanding contributions to organized camping or to ACA New England. It should be presented to individuals, groups or organizations that may or may not be members of ACA in order to recognize their support of quality camp experiences. The recommendation is to give up to two Community Honor Awards annually.



### **Meritorious Service Award**

This award is for meritorious service to ACA New England and the organized camp community. This individual has made outstanding contributions to ACA New England in a multitude of areas. Recipients must have been a member for a minimum of 7 years. Recipient should be a current or past member of ACA for a minimum of 5 years. The recommendation is to give no more than two Meritorious Service Awards annually.

Evidenced by the following criteria:

- Contributions should be of exceptional benefit to ACA New England's efforts
- The benefits of the candidate's service may go beyond the local area to ACA on a regional and/or national level or other noted organizations.
- bringing benefit and honor good, faithful and efficient service
- Nominees must have established a pattern of excellence, normally demonstrated by the receipt of other awards.
- Provided unusual initiative and skill in leadership

### **Peter Kerns Award for the Advancement of Professional Development**

This award is given to an individual, group or organization that has shown extraordinary commitment to the development of camp professionals. This award celebrates the life of Peter Kerns who inspired and challenged us to continually enhance the camp experience for all. The recommendation is to give only one Peter Kerns Award annually.

### **George Marcus Award for ACA Accreditation Education Service**

Given to a Standards Volunteer who exemplifies their role as the face of ACA New England and the ACA Accreditation process. The recommendation is to give no more than one award annually.

Awarded to an individual who demonstrates at least two of the following criteria:

- Champions the Education of the accreditation process through mentoring multiple camps or going above and beyond the call to help camps through the accreditation process.
- Is an ambassador of ACA and the Accreditation process to camps throughout the process and/or active recruiter of new camps to Accreditation.
- Advances change with regard to the Accreditation process or specific standards by bringing awareness and attention to the National Standards Committee.
- Demonstrates unusual dedication and leadership in their role as a Trainer, Instructor, Visitor, Standards Committee member, etc.



### **Leadership and Service Awards**

These awards are an opportunity to recognize and celebrate individuals, groups, or organizations for their significant contributions to ACA New England in leadership roles or in service to ACA and the New England camp community.

It is recommended that up to three awards be given annually and that one is a person with fewer than 3 years of experience in the camping community. Awards should be chosen from the following categories, or if desired one created specifically to better highlight the recognition.

- *Visionary Trailblazing*: has made significant efforts addressing a problem or improving a situation. Has created a better world/community because of efforts.
- *Excellence in Leadership*: exemplifies a commitment to individual leadership
- *Emerging Leader*: fewer than three years of experience.
- *Outstanding Volunteer Service*
- *Board Service*
- *Outstanding Mentor*
- *Other*