

Criteria for Oregon State Master Gardener of the Year

Please nominate a single individual. Dual or team nominations are discouraged, unless there is a particularly compelling reason to do so (i.e. you are nominating two family members, who work and contribute as a team).

Applicants will be scored, based upon the criteria outlined below (50 points possible):

Number of Years as a Master Gardener (5 Points): Master Gardeners should be recognized for the years of service to the Program. However, because this is not the sole or most important criteria on which applications should be judged, this category is only worth 5 points. Please use the following scale to assign a numerical score to this column.

- 1 to 5 years = 1 point
- 6 to 10 years = 2 points
- 11 to 15 years = 3 points
- 16 to 20 years = 4 points
- 21 or more years = 5 points

Local Chapter Involvement (10 Points): Has the nominee held any leadership positions within their local Chapter? Has the person initiated a new program, or have they breathed new life into an existing program, within their local Chapter? Do they play a role in training and/or mentoring new Master Gardeners? Please consider all of these questions, as well as other ways that the nominee may have fostered the success of their Chapter, when coming up with a point score (from 1 to 10) for Local Chapter Involvement.

Positions in OMGA (10 points): Positions within OMGA include: elected officers (e.g. President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary), appointed positions (e.g. Historian or Newsletter Editor), ad hoc committee chair (bylaws, McNeilan Scholarship, Mini-College Co Chair, Silent Auction Co Chair, etc.). Please consider the positions held and the roles played by the nominee, within the Oregon Master Gardener Association, when coming up with a score for this column.

Outstanding and Unusual Service (20 points): It is this outstanding and unusual service to OMGA and to the OSU Master Gardener Program that defines the Statewide Master Gardener of the Year. Thus, this category is weighted the heaviest of all categories. Examples of unusual or outstanding service would be taking the lead on a special project for their local Master Gardener Program (e.g. a Master Gardener conference) or for OMGA; establishing a new and worthy project within their local Master Gardener Program (e.g. a new community garden or a mentorship program); any other service that is both outstanding, and above the expectations normally associated with a leadership position or a Master Gardener volunteer.

Comments from Master Gardener Program Staff (5 points): The comments from the staff are important and independent support for each nominee. However, because Program Staff put varying levels of effort into their comments, potential Statewide Master Gardener of the Year will not be overly penalized because of missing or brief comments. Thus, this category is only worth 5 points, maximum.

Criteria for Behind the Scenes Award

Please nominate a single individual. Dual or team nominations are discouraged, unless there is a particularly compelling reason to do so (i.e. you are nominating two family members, who work and contribute as a team).

Applicants will be scored, based upon the criteria outlined below (40 points possible):

Number of Years as a Master Gardener (5 Points): Master Gardeners should be recognized for the years of service to the Program. However, because this is not the sole or most important criteria on which applications should be judged, this category is only worth 5 points. Please use the following scale to assign a numerical score to this column.

- 1 to 5 years = 1 point
- 6 to 10 years = 2 points
- 11 to 15 years = 3 points
- 16 to 20 years = 4 points
- 21 or more years = 5 points

Local Chapter Involvement (10 Points): Has the nominee held any leadership positions within their local Chapter? Has the person initiated a new program, or have they breathed new life into an existing program, within their local Chapter? Do they play a role in training and/or mentoring new Master Gardeners? Please consider all of these questions, as well as other ways that the nominee may have fostered the success of their Chapter, when coming up with a point score (from 1 to 10) for Local Chapter Involvement.

Behind the Scenes Contributions (20 points): It is this quiet and unselfish service that defines the Behind the Scenes award. Thus, this category is weighted the heaviest of all categories. Is the nominee the type of person that you could imagine asking to complete a task, and you sense that they would complete the task in remarkable fashion, and ask for nothing in return? Have the nominee's contributions to the program been recognized, in some other fashion? Might you call this Master Gardener an 'Unsung Hero' of the Program? These, and other questions, are ones you should consider when determining a score for this category. Please note that service can occur at the local level, the state level, or both

Comments from Master Gardener Program Staff (5 points): The comments from the staff are important and independent support for each nominee. However, because Program Staff put varying levels of effort into their comments, potential Behind the Scenes Awardees will not be overly penalized for missing or brief comments. Thus, this category is only worth 5 points, maximum.