

# AL MERITO AWARD RECIPIENTS



ARIZONA  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

Connecting people through the power of Arizona's history.

[azhs.org](http://azhs.org)

Almost 50 years ago, the Arizona Historical Society established the Al Merito Award to recognize those who have contributed significantly to preserving and promoting Arizona history. Named for the nineteenth-century award bestowed by a newly independent government of Mexico for meritorious service to the Republic, almerito literally translates to *for merit*. Today, the Arizona Historical Society's highest honor acknowledges meritorious service for those who preserve and celebrate Arizona history.

**2021**

Tom Foster

**2020**

Delia Muñoz

Superstition Mountain Historical Society

**2019**

Janeen Trevillyan

Desert Caballeros Western Museum

**2018**

Vernelda J. Grant

James Klein

**2017**

James Babbitt

Sulphur Springs Valley Historical Society

**2016**

Charles Flynn

**2015**

Shaw Kinsley, Tubac

**2014**

Patrick Foley, Kingman

Dr. Bernard "Bunny" Fontana, Tucson

Dr. James "Big Jim" Griffith, Tucson

**2013**

Arizona Military Museum

**2012**

Dan Messersmith, Kingman

George Dvorak and the Fort Verde Volunteers, Camp Verde

**2011**

Marshall Trimble, Scottsdale

**2010**

Malcolm Mackey, Flagstaff

**2009**

John C. Lacy, Tucson

**2008**

Bill Porter, Kingman

**2007**

Jim Patterson, Chandler

**2006**

Victor Linoff, Tempe

**2005**

Melvin Van Vorst, Pine

Melissa Ruffner, Prescott

**2004**

Carol Cribbet-Bell, Tucson

Hazel "Billie" Thiesen, Quartzsite

**2003**

Betty Grounds, Kingman

Edith Denton, Sedona

**2002**

Nan and Harry Ames, Douglas

**2001**

Della Meadows, Florence

Mary L. Hunt, Pine

**2000**

Fred W. Jones

**1999**

Pine-Strawberry Historical Society

**1998**

Dr. Wilbur A. Haak

**1997**

Mary Kukal

**1996**

The Honorable Barry M. Goldwater

**1995**

Marguerite Noble

**1994**

Karin Goudy

**1993**

Donald H. Bufkin

**1992**

Mrs. Billy Earley

**1991**

Howard P. Henlin

**1990**

City of Yuma

**1989**

Jerome Historical Society

**1988**

Carrillo School

Pat Callahan

**1987**

Las Senoras de Socorro

Robert Hurley

Arizona Humanities Council

C.L. Sonnichsen

**1985**

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Murphey

Mr. and Mrs. Herb McLaughlin

Mr. Clap P. Bedorrd

Dr. Arthur Woodward

**1984**

Madeline Ferrin Paré

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur

Jim and Mary Faul

Elizabeth F. Ruffner

Elizabeth Garretson

**1983**

Mrs. Garnette Franklin

Mr. William E. Negus

Mrs. Eleanor B. Sloan

Dr. John (Jack) Alexander Carroll,

Troy State University

**1982**

Tucson Festival Society

Constance Wynn Altshuler

Joe and Vada C. Rodriguez

**1981**

Dr. Emil W. Haury

Tubac Historical Society

Pine-Strawberry Historical Society

**1980**

Library Learning Center, Arizona Western College, Yuma

Mr. Paul V. Long

Pimeria Alta Historical Society

**1979**

Billy and Lynn Earley

Prescott Courier

Al Hubbard

**1978**

Southwest Studies Institute, Maricopa County Community College District

Elizabeth Brownell

Colonel Eugene Murphy

5th Cavalry Memorial Regiment

**1977**

Casa Grande Valley Historical Society

Mrs. Joseph Saba

Mrs. Dorothy Hall

Daughters of the Mojave County Pioneers

**1976**

The Honorable Ruth Adams

Platt Cline

Bert M. Fireman

Junior League of Tucson, Inc.

Lester W. Ruffner

**1975**

George and Mary Alice Bradt

Dewey Farr

Northland Press

Mrs. Elizabeth S. Oldaker

Edward Soza

**1974**

John D. Driggs

First National Bank of Arizona Historical Society

George W. Chambers

Howard Henson

Ernest Johannsen

Mrs. Emery C. Johnson (Ann Eve)

Sunnyside High School

Associated Press, Arizona Bureau

William A. Small, Jr.

Roscoe G. Willson

Mrs. John W. Keickhefer