

# AL MERITO AWARD RECIPIENTS



Connecting people through the power of Arizona's history.

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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.

## 2022

Arizona Contractor  
& Community Magazine  
Cindy Hayostek  
Bruce Dinges

## 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