

TYLA AWARDS OF ACHIEVEMENT
GENERAL RULES

COMPETITION CATEGORIES AND REQUIREMENTS

All submissions should highlight the most successful projects conducted during the last concluded activity year for the period from June 1 prior through June 1 of the current year. Or, for such other 12-month period as reflects the last concluded activity year of the affiliate.

A. Categories of Competition

1. **Single Project: Service to the Public**
This submission should highlight the affiliate's best public service project conducted during the most recently concluded bar or activity year.
2. **Single Project: Service to the Bar**
This submission should highlight the affiliate's best professional service project conducted during the most recently concluded bar or activity year.
3. **Newsletter**
The submission should highlight the role of an affiliate newsletter in achieving its overall goals and objectives.

Newsletters eligible for the Awards of Achievement competition must be freestanding young lawyer publications that are not part of any other publication and must be published at least quarterly.

Applicants are required to submit at least two issues of the newsletter

4. **Comprehensive**
This submission should highlight the affiliate's broad range of programming conducted during its most recently concluded bar or activity year. The award is determined from a comprehensive evaluation of all programs.
 - i. Submitters must list their new and significantly expanded projects first. Submissions that mislead, duplicate, attempt to present single projects in more than one category or exaggerate the number of activities will be disqualified. A series of projects of the same kind, such as social, athletic or CLE, should be treated as one project. Projects not implemented during the current activity year cannot be included in the application.
 - ii. Following the list of new and significantly expanded projects, continuing projects carried out by the affiliate may also be included in this application.

- iii. Only 5 projects combined (new/expanded/continuing) will be eligible for consideration; affiliates are urged to submit the best of their ongoing projects.
- iv. Length - The Comprehensive submission must include a detailed narrative, outlining each exhibit and being well defined throughout exhibit. Definition of all submissions are limited to 500 words per exhibit
- v. Exhibits – May include e-books, e-publications, and pictures must be submitted in .pdf form and submitted at the time of the application process. Materials that are not the direct product of young lawyer volunteer work should not be submitted as an exhibit
- vi. The exhibits must be clearly defined by a project title/information page for each project. For example, if you have more than one exhibit for a project, the title/information page would be completed for each project. Noting on the title page “Project 4 of 5 Name of Project” etc.

I. PROCEDURES FOR FILING

Submissions must be submitted by email to mpalacios@texasbar.com by April 24, 2026 at midnight. Regardless of circumstance, technological issues, or delay, late submissions will not be considered.

Each affiliate may submit one (1) project in each category. Submission of more than one project in a category will result in disqualification.

All projects that have been submitted in previous years in the Single Project category are ineligible for inclusion in the application.

Comprehensive Project submissions must be submitted separately for consideration in the Single Project or Newsletter categories. Projects included in a Comprehensive application are not automatically considered for Single Project or Newsletter awards.

DO NOT submit any printed materials or flash drives.

II. JUDGING

1. Judges will be asked to consider:

Single Projects Judges consider to the following factors:

- Goals and their achievement.
- Significance of the project’s impact.
- Degree of participation from members.
- Originality of activity or project.
- Compliance with the rules.

Newsletter Judges consider the following factors:

- Article selection.
- Writing quality.
- Overall design.
- Choices given design constraints.
- Goals and impact.
- Compliance with the rules.

Comprehensive Award Scoring

Judges will consider all single projects submitted with a comprehensive application using the Single Project criteria in Section VII above. Judges will also determine the well-rounded or balanced nature of the overall bar program by considering the following categories:

- Balance of Service to the Public and Service to the Bar Projects.
- Efforts to co-sponsor with senior bar associations and other groups.
- Number of projects and quality of projects relative to membership size of the affiliate.
- Number of projects and quality of projects relative to budget.
- Balance of programs for experienced and inexperienced lawyers.
- Overall perception of balance, well-rounded programming, and excellence.

Questions should be directed to: Michelle Palacios at mpalacios@texasbar.com.