



*Call for Nominations:*  
**2020 Distinguished Naturalist Award**

The Directors of the Rhode Island Natural History Survey (RINHS) seek nominations for the Rhode Island Natural History Survey Distinguished Naturalist Award, an honor presented to one or more people annually. Over the years this award has become an expression of the deep and abiding respect our community holds for individuals who excel in their studies of Rhode Island ecosystems and in their ability to communicate the knowledge and understanding thus gained to others.

Consider nominating an individual who inspired your interest in the natural world, served as a role model for your own accomplishments in natural history, or contributed to the knowledge and protection of the organisms, geology, and ecosystems that you now enjoy.

**A Distinguished Naturalist is someone who has excelled in one or more of the following:**

- Significantly advanced scientific knowledge of Rhode Island's organisms, geology, and ecosystems as evidenced by published books, scientific papers, and monographs;
- Is recognized as an outstanding teacher and educator to students and the public on the form, functions, and ecological significance of Rhode Island's plants, animals, geology and natural systems;
- Contributed considerably to enhancing public awareness of the importance of understanding the natural history of Rhode Island's ecosystems.

Nominations can be submitted by email to [programadmin@rinhs.org](mailto:programadmin@rinhs.org), by mail to P.O. Box 1858, Kingston, RI 02881, or by contacting any member of the RINHS Nominating Committee (Bob Kenney [[rkenney@uri.edu](mailto:rkenney@uri.edu)], Keith Killingbeck [[keith@uri.edu](mailto:keith@uri.edu)], Malia Schwartz [[malias@uri.edu](mailto:malias@uri.edu)]). We appreciate receiving nominations at any time, but especially before 31 January 2020. In your correspondence please describe the ways in which your nominee excelled in one or more of the three criteria described above. Please include as much specific detail as possible. Past, unsuccessful nominations are kept and reconsidered every year, so you are not required to re-nominate

someone who has not been chosen as a recipient. However, you are welcome to provide additional information on your nominee if you feel it would strengthen the nomination. Please remember that currently-serving RINHS staff and Directors are not eligible for the award.

Sincerely,

the RINHS Nominating Committee

*Previously Recognized Distinguished Naturalists*

**Living Awards:**

\*Irene H. Stuckey; 1995  
\*Richard L. Champlin; 1996  
\*Douglas L. Kraus; 1998  
Francis C. Golet; 1999  
Prentice K. Stout; 2000  
\*Douglas Rayner; 2001  
\*Grace Klein-MacPhee; 2002  
Hugh Willoughby; 2003  
\*David Emerson; 2004  
\*Roger D. Goos; 2005  
\*Elise Lapham; 2006  
\*Christopher Nerone; 2007  
Richard W. Enser; 2008  
Lisa Lofland Gould; 2009  
Douglas H. Morse; 2010  
\*Alfred L. Hawkes; 2011  
\*Peter B. Lord; 2012  
J. Stanley Cobb; 2013  
Charlotte B. Sornborger; 2014  
Linda Green; 2015  
Steven E. Reinert; 2016  
Francis R. Underwood; 2017  
Christopher Raithel; 2019

**Posthumous Awards:**

Elizabeth Dickens, Mark Gould; 2000  
Les Sirkin; 2002  
Harry Hathaway; 2003  
Harold Nelson Gibbs, C. Robert Shoop; 2004  
Elmer A. Palmatier; 2005  
Gil George; 2007  
Ken Weber; 2008  
William Whitman Bailey; 2009  
William H. Drury, Jr.; 2010  
Scott W. Nixon; 2013  
Roland C. Clement; 2015  
Jon C. Boothroyd; 2016  
Harriet Lathrop Merrow; 2017  
Michael Kieron; 2018

\* = have passed away since receiving the RINHS Distinguished Naturalist Award