



We are pleased to announce that NMCA is actively accepting nominations for this year's NMCA Annual Awards, to include, the Dr. George L. Kepper Outstanding Counselor of the Year Award and the Ralph M. Garcia Award. Please see additional details and nomination instructions below. For more information related to the conference, including registration, please visit www.nmca-nm.org/events.

Thank you!

NMCA Nominations for the Dr. George L. Kepper Outstanding Counselor of the Year Award

Dr. George L. Kepper, a proud resident of Albuquerque 48 years left his indelible mark on the counseling community as early as 1953. When he received his Doctorate in Education Specializing in Guidance Counseling he was employed as Assistant Director of Guidance for Albuquerque Public Schools, after which he took a position as an Associate Professor in the College of Education at UNM. In 1956, he worked tirelessly to organize and serve as Vice President and President for the New Mexico Counseling Association. In 1957, Dr. Kepper was awarded the first School Counselor certificate in New Mexico, which has led the way for thousands of counselors since in the state.

Dr. Kepper devoted his entire career to helping people and working with the New Mexico Counseling Association mission of fostering the development of professional counselors and the practice of counseling to promote respect for human dignity and diversity.

It is our privilege and honor to revive this award and bestow it annually, starting in 2017, to an outstanding counselor in New Mexico who embodies the same values as Dr. Kepper in leadership, creativity, and the promotion of the profession. The presentation will be at the NMCA conference (more info can be found [here](#)), so attendance is required. This award will consist of an annual NMCA membership, NMCA conference fees and \$100. The Awards Committee is now accepting nominations at nmca.info@gmail.com with "George Kepper" in the subject line.

Nominations must contain a 350-word explanation (minimum) as to why the nominee is deserving of the award. All entries must include nominee's resume, phone, email addresses, and licensures held. We ask that the person nominating them also provide their phone, email, and address.

Please use the email above for any questions. The Award Committee will notify the winner 45 days prior to the annual conference. The nomination deadline is January 28, 2019.

Accepting Nominations for 2019 @ nmca.info@gmail.com

NMCA Nominations for the Ralph M. Garcia Award

In Memory of Ralph M. Garcia

In 2014, NMCA started the Ralph M. Garcia Memorial Membership Award. Ralph was a Counselor with Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Circle of Life Behavioral Health Network. He passed away on December 16, 2013. Ralph was a tribal member of Santo Domingo Pueblo and worked with many Native American Behavioral Health Programs helping clients with culturally focused healing methods. The Memorial Membership Award is awarded to a Native American Counselor who exemplifies Ralph's helping philosophy. The recipient is given a membership to NMCA for one year. Thanks to a scholarship set up by NM Advocates for Social Justice the recipient will attend the NMCA Annual conference for free.

The presentation of the award will take place at the 2019 NMCA conference (more info can be found [here](#)), so attendance is required. The Awards Committee is now accepting nominations at nmca.info@gmail.com with Ralph Garcia in the subject line.

Nominations must contain a 350-word explanation (minimum) as to why the nominee is deserving of the award. All entries must include nominee's resume, phone, email addresses, and licensures held. We ask that the person nominating them also provide their phone, email, and address.

Please use the email above for any questions. The Award Committee will notify the winner 45 days prior to the annual conference. The nomination deadline is January 28, 2019.

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