



# Society of Automotive Historians™

## SAH AWARDS COMMITTEE – POLICIES & PROCEDURES

### **Purpose**

The Awards Committee serves as a central contact and clearing house for award nominations, Award Panel Chairs and Award Panel business, and provides guidance for each Award Panel to develop their policies and procedures. Per Article IX of the SAH Bylaws, the members of the Award Committee are appointed by the President for two-year terms and shall consist of a Chair and at least two other members. The Committee members may serve an unlimited number of terms.

Per Article IX of the SAH Bylaws, the Awards Committee in turn establishes an Award Panel for each award bestowed and appoints at least three members for each Award Panel, to serve two-year terms. Award Panelists may serve an unlimited number of terms.

### **Call for Nominations**

A call for award nominations will be made after November 1 of each year and will be published in the *SAH Journal*, on the SAH website, and by SAH email distributions. The call can also be submitted to appropriate automotive publications, websites, and organizations. Reminders for nominations will be sent at least bi-monthly, until the nominations due dates.

### **Eligibility**

Nomination for categories with release dates (Benz, Cugnot, Ingersoll, Scharchburg) will consider works produced in the previous calendar year (i.e., the 2022 awards will be for works produced from January 1 - December 31, 2021). Categories without a release date (Bradley and Friend of Automotive History), that recognize long-term contributions by an individual or institution, are not limited by time frame.

### **Submission**

Nominations for all awards will be sent to a single Awards Committee email address: [sahawards@gmail.com](mailto:sahawards@gmail.com). This email account will be monitored by the President, or a designee of the President, and the Awards Committee leadership.

Nominations must include the following information:

- Award category
- Publication, institution, or person being nominated
- Individual making nomination
- One or two lines outlining reason for nomination

SAH membership is not a requirement to submit a nomination; nominations will be accepted from members and non-members alike.

All nomination emails and follow up emails received at [sahwards@gmail.com](mailto:sahwards@gmail.com) will be promptly forwarded to the appropriate Award Panel Chair for their review and action. The activity in this email account will be preserved in organized email folders for easy future reference.

The Award Panel Chairs will obtain the physical or digital materials necessary from the nominated or nominating parties. Any book submitted for Cugnot Award consideration, both English and LOE, becomes the property of the SAH, whether the nominated book wins an award or not. After the awards are made, all nominated and awarded books are sent to Auburn, Indiana for custodial care in The Society of Automotive Historians Special Reference Collection at the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum (ACDAM). This collection is available for onsite use by SAH members and by ACDAM members and ACDAM visitors, following reading room protocols established by the ACDAM. A Memorandum of Understanding is in place, between the SAH and the ACDAM, detailing their relationship and the custodial care of the SAH book collection.

## **Decision**

The determination of SAH award winners is the responsibility of the individual Award Panels. The Panels may choose to select more than one winner or may refrain from selecting any winner during any given year. The Panel may also, at their discretion, confer Awards of Distinction to additional entries considered exceptional. Award Panel Chairs will forward decisions to the Awards Committee Chair by August 15 of each year.

## **Recipient Notification**

Prior to the public announcement of the winners, the Award Panel Chairs and/or the President will notify all nominees of the award decisions, winners, and non-winners alike, by an emailed or mailed announcement letter. Non-winners should not be given the identity of the winner at that time.

Both emailed and postal mailed announcement letters will be copied to [sahwards@gmail.com](mailto:sahwards@gmail.com)

Award Panel Chairs will forward full names and addresses of award winners to the SAH member in charge of plaques by September 1 of each year.

- Plaques may be awarded to both authors and publishers.
- Plaques will be presented in person at the Annual Banquet and, when possible, at the Euromeeeting. Plaques may also be mailed to the recipients, with a cover letter from the Panel Chair or the Award Committee Chair.
- Plaques unable to be awarded in person will be mailed to the recipients, accompanied by a letter of congratulations from the SAH President and/or the Award Panel Chair.

### **Public Announcement**

Public announcement of the winners can be made after August 15th of each year, at the discretion of each Award Panel Chair, though preferably on a common date coordinated by the Awards Committee. Public announcements should also be made on the SAH website, in the *SAH Journal*, on the SAH Facebook page, and by SAH email distributions. SAH Award recipients may include notice of the award in personal and professional press releases and promotional material after the winners have been publicly announced by the Society of Automotive Historians. Formal presentation of the Award Plaques to the winners will be made at the SAH Annual Award Banquet. Award Panel Chairs will provide writes-ups of award winners for the Annual Banquet presentation and for the *SAH Journal*.

### **Promotion**

In the future, the Awards Committee will coordinate with the marketing committee to establish a process for promoting the SAH Awards and for announcing and publicizing the winners.

## **DESCRIPTION OF AWARDS**

### **NICOLAS-JOSEPH CUGNOT AWARD, ENGLISH**

The Nicolas-Joseph Cugnot Award, English is presented each year for one or more books that best advance the understanding of the history of the automobile in the English language in the previous calendar year. Consideration will be given to traditional automotive histories – books focused on cars, automakers, individuals, and events – as well as social histories of the automobile, which examine the effect of the automobile on society, culture, and everyday life.

### **NICOLAS-JOSEPH CUGNOT AWARD, LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH (LOE)**

The Nicolas-Joseph Cugnot Award, Language other than English is presented each year for one or more books which best advance the understanding of the history of the automobile in a language other than English in the previous calendar year. Consideration will be given to traditional automotive histories – books focused on cars, automakers, individuals and events – as well as social histories of the automobile which examine the effect of the automobile on society, culture, and everyday life. (Nominations of books previously published in English, or currently published in English and another language, should be directed to the Cugnot Award Panel, rather than the Cugnot LOE Award Panel.)

## **CARL BENZ AWARD**

The Carl Benz Award recognizes excellence in the presentation of automotive history appearing as an article in a periodical. Articles in all commercial, club, and academic periodicals are welcome to be nominated. An author or publisher is welcome to nominate his or her own article(s) in their respective publication. The article must have appeared in a publication with an on-sale date within the previous calendar year. Multi-part articles with on-sale dates in both the previous year, and the year prior to that, are also eligible. Multi-part articles with on-sale dates in both the previous year and the following year, must wait until the following year for nomination, but all parts would be eligible at that time.

## **RICHARD AND GRACE BRIGHAM AWARD**

The Richard and Grace Brigham Award is presented to the commercial, institutional, or club automotive history periodical that represents the most exemplary editorial, graphic, and historical content published in the previous calendar year. Periodicals with an online-only presence are also eligible. Award evaluations are based on issues for the entire calendar year, rather than a single issue. (Nominations for a single article should be directed to the Benz Award Panel, rather than the Brigham Award Panel.)

## **E.P. INGERSOLL AWARD**

The E. P. Ingersoll Award is given for the best presentation of automotive history in media other than print. Film, television, video documentaries, oral histories, sound recordings, podcasts, websites, blogs, social media, cell phone and tablet apps, computer software, and art are eligible for consideration. The Award Panel may choose to give two awards in any given year – one for film and television, the other for all other non-print media other than film/television. (Nominations for online periodicals should be directed to the Brigham Award Panel rather than the Ingersoll Award Panel.)

## **JAMES J. BRADLEY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

The James J. Bradley Distinguished Service Award is presented by The Society of Automotive Historians to museums, archives, and libraries for exemplary efforts in preserving motor vehicle resource materials.

## **FRIEND OF AUTOMOTIVE HISTORY**

The lifetime Friend of Automotive History (FOAH) award recognizes an individual who has made a profound individual contribution to the automotive history community and the historical record. The Award Panel is under no obligation to select a Friend of Automotive History award each year. The FOAH Award Panel Chair is appointed by the Awards Committee. The entire SAH Board of Directors comprise the members of the FOAH Award Panel.

## **RICHARD P. SCHARCHBURG STUDENT PAPER AWARD**

In order to encourage research and writing effort among university students in the area of automotive history, the Society confers its annual award for the best student paper in the auto history field. The award is named for Richard Scharchburg, the late Professor of History at Kettering University, eminent automotive historian, and past vice president of the Society of Automotive Historians. The SAH offers separate awards for best student paper in both the undergraduate and graduate categories. Persons submitting papers must be enrolled at educational institutions (upper-class undergraduate or graduate level) at the time of submission. This competition is international in scope, but papers must be in the English language. Papers already published or scheduled for publication will not be accepted.

Manuscripts should not exceed 10,000 words, and should be double-spaced. An abstract is requested. Judging criteria include clear statement of purpose and testable hypothesis, accuracy and thoroughness of research, originality of the research, documentation, quality and extent of bibliographic resources, and writing style. Diagrams, graphs, or photographs may be included. Submissions are to be electronic, in Word format or PDF files only, to the Award Committee email address.

Possible subjects include but are not limited to historical aspects of automobile companies and their leaders, regulation of the auto industry, financial and economic aspects of the industry, the social effects of the automobile, highway development, environmental matters, and automotive marketing, design, engineering, and safety.

A cover letter should be included stating the student's address, school, program, advisor, and stage in studies. The student should indicate how the paper submitted will relate to his or her professional future. Submissions must be email-dated by June 15. All papers submitted will be acknowledged. If unable to submit digitally, contact the Scharchburg Award Chair for further instructions.

Upon recommendation of the judges, the winning paper(s) will be considered for publication in the *Society's Automotive History Review*.

The Scharchburg Student Paper Award recipients will receive the following:

- One-year SAH digital membership
- An Award Plaque
- Undergraduate student recipient will receive a \$250 cash prize.
- Graduate student recipient will receive a \$500 cash prize
- Award of Distinction recipients, both undergraduate and graduate, will each receive a \$100 cash prize.