

# Historian Awards – Guidelines and Criteria

## Contents

Historian Awards.....	1
Historian of the Year .....	2
Emerging Historian .....	3
Life-Long Historian .....	4
Digital Technologies Award .....	5
Regional History Award.....	6
Community History Award .....	7
Oral History Excellence.....	8

## Historian Awards

The HCSA Historian Awards were launched in 2012, and seek to recognise the outstanding achievements of an individual or group who have made a major contribution in the field of history in South Australia. These achievements can encompass, but are not limited to, history teaching, historical research and scholarship, teaching, raising community awareness of our history and heritage (for example through presentations, exhibitions, traditional and digital publications), and strengthening the profile of history.

The awards may be awarded in the following categories:

- Historian of the Year
- Emerging Historian
- Life Long Historian
- Digital Technologies Award
- Regional History Award
- Community History Award
- Oral History Excellence

The awards are sponsored by the History Council of South Australia, in partnership with Wakefield Press, and Oral History Australia (SA/NT).

## Historian of the Year

The Historian of the Year Award recognises the outstanding achievements of an individual who has made a major contribution to the field of history in South Australia. These achievements can encompass, but are not limited to:

- History teaching
- Historical research and scholarship
- Raising community awareness of history and heritage
- Creation or production of a public history product or products
- Strengthening the profile of history.

The Historian of the Year winner will receive a citation, certificate, and a gift to be presented at an annual awards ceremony traditionally held during the History Festival. The winner will also receive membership of the History Council of South Australia for one year if they are not already a member.

### Eligibility and Criteria

Nominations for Historian of the Year must be made by filling in the application form linked on the website.

1. The nominated person must be a resident of South Australia, or have produced work primarily about South Australian history.
2. The described contribution and achievements in the field of history should have been primarily completed in the 18 months prior to the award nomination period.
3. The nominating parties must provide evidence of the nominated person's achievements and contributions using the form on the website.
4. Self-nominations are not accepted.
5. General Committee members of the History Council of South Australia are not eligible to be nominated.

A panel of expert members of the historical profession is appointed annually by the History Council of South Australia to serve as judges. The judges' decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into. The History Council of South Australia reserves the right not to make an award in any year.

## Emerging Historian

The Emerging Historian Award recognises the achievements of an individual who has more recently engaged with the field of history research and activities in South Australia. The recipient of the award should have made significant contributions to the field of history, broadly conceived, in their recent engagement with the field.

The Emerging Historian Award winner will receive a citation, certificate, and a gift to be presented at an annual awards ceremony traditionally held during the History Festival. The winner will also receive membership of the History Council of South Australia for one year if they are not already a member.

### Eligibility and Criteria

Nominations for the Emerging Historian Award must be made by filling in the application form linked on the website.

1. The nominated person must be a resident of South Australia, or have produced work primarily about South Australian history.
2. The described contribution and achievements in the field of history should have been primarily completed in the 18 months prior to the award nomination period.
3. The nominated person's recent engagement with the field is defined as having had first publication or production (or similar) within the past five years.
4. The nominating parties must provide evidence of the nominated person's achievements and contributions using the form on the website.
5. Self-nominations are not accepted.
6. General Committee members of the History Council of South Australia are not eligible to be nominated.

A panel of expert members of the historical profession is appointed annually by the History Council of South Australia to serve as judges. The judges' decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into. The History Council of South Australia reserves the right not to make an award in any year.

## Life-Long Historian

The Life-Long Historian Award recognises the outstanding achievements of an individual who has made a major contribution to the field of history in South Australia. The recipient of the award must be a senior historian of the highest distinction who has spent the bulk of professional or voluntary career in the field of history or heritage. The HCSA encourages nominations of historians who will leave a lasting legacy for South Australian history.

The Life-Long Historian Award winner will receive a citation, certificate, and a gift to be presented at an annual awards ceremony traditionally held during the History Festival. The winner will also receive membership of the History Council of South Australia for one year if they are not already a member.

### Eligibility and Criteria

Nominations for Life-Long Historian must be made by filling in the application form linked on the website.

1. The nominated person must be a resident of South Australia, or have produced work primarily about South Australian history.
2. Evidence of the nominated person's outstanding achievements should comprise of at least 25 years of service and contribution to the field of history.
3. The nominating parties must provide evidence of the nominated person's achievements and contributions using the form on the website.
4. Self-nominations are not accepted.
5. General Committee members of the History Council of South Australia are not eligible to be nominated.

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## Digital Technologies Award

The Digital Technologies Award recognises the outstanding achievements of an individual or group in the field of digital history in South Australia. The award can recognise achievements based on a single digital history project, or a body of work representing multiple digital technology applications for the field of history.

Entries could include a feature-length fiction film, a documentary film, a documentary for radio or television, a DVD, website, podcast, application for mobile/handheld device or other form of multimedia, including displays and stage productions. The production/s should communicate its/their subject in ways that engage and enlighten audiences and should encourage an interest in and appreciation for history and heritage.

The Digital Technologies Award winner will receive a citation, certificate, and a gift to be presented at an annual awards ceremony traditionally held during the History Festival. The winner will also receive membership of the History Council of South Australia for one year if they are not already a member.

Self-nominations are accepted for this award.

### Eligibility and Criteria

Nominations for the Digital Technologies Award must be made by filling in the application form linked on the website.

1. The nominated person/group must be a resident of South Australia, or have produced work primarily about South Australian history.
2. The described contribution and achievements in the field of history should have been primarily completed in the 18 months prior to the award nomination period.
3. Nominating parties must provide evidence of the nominated person/groups/project's achievements and contributions using the form on the website.
4. General Committee members of the History Council of South Australia are not eligible to apply.

A panel of expert members of the historical profession is appointed annually by the History Council of South Australia to serve as judges. The judges' decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into. The History Council of South Australia reserves the right not to make an award in any year.

## Regional History Award

The Regional History Award recognises the outstanding achievements of an individual or group who has made a major contribution to regional history in South Australia. The award seeks to encourage historians to increase public engagement in topics that have ongoing relevance to regional histories. The HCSA encourages nominations from individuals or groups who have produced works of history or engagement with heritage in the prior 18 months in regional South Australia, or a record of ongoing programs of public history or research in regional South Australia.

For the purposes of this award, regional South Australia includes the Adelaide Hills, Barossa, Light and Lower Light, Eyre and Western, Far North, Flinders Ranges, APY Lands, Fleurieu Peninsula, Kangaroo Island, Limestone Coast, Coorong and Lakes, Murray Mallee, Riverland, Yorke Peninsula, Mid North, and Clare Valley. The judges accept contingent definitions of regions that differ based on differing social, economic, or environmental characteristics. The intention of the award is to encourage recognition of historical engagement beyond the metro areas.

will receive a citation, certificate, and a gift to be presented at an annual awards ceremony traditionally held during the History Festival. The winner will also receive membership of the History Council of South Australia for one year if they are not already a member.

Self-nominations are accepted for this award.

### Eligibility and Criteria

Nominations for the Regional History Award must be made by filling in the application form linked on the website.

1. The nominated person or group must be a resident/s of South Australia, or have produced work primarily about regional South Australian history.
2. The described contribution and achievements in the field of history should have been primarily completed in the 18 months prior to the award nomination period.
3. The nominating parties must provide evidence of the nominated person's achievements and contributions using the form on the website.
4. General Committee members of the History Council of South Australia are not eligible to apply.

A panel of expert members of the historical profession is appointed annually by the History Council of South Australia to serve as judges. The judges' decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into. The History Council of South Australia reserves the right not to make an award in any year.

## Community History Award

The Community History Award recognises the outstanding achievements of an individual or group who has made a major contribution to community history in South Australia. The award seeks to encourage historians to increase public engagement in topics that have ongoing relevance to community histories. The HCSA encourages nominations from individuals or groups who have produced works of history or engagement with community heritage in the prior 18 months in South Australia, or a record of ongoing programs of community public history, or historical research in South Australian communities.

Communities can be variously defined, and include both regional and metro localities. The purpose of the award is to recognise community based and/or community-centric historical engagement across South Australia.

will receive a citation, certificate, and a gift to be presented at an annual awards ceremony traditionally held during the History Festival. The winner will also receive membership of the History Council of South Australia for one year if they are not already a member.

Self-nominations are accepted for this award.

### Eligibility and Criteria

Nominations for the Community History Award must be made by filling in the application form linked on the website.

1. The nominated person or group must be a resident/s of South Australia, or have produced work primarily about South Australian history.
2. The nominated person's recent engagement with the field is defined as having had first publication or production (or similar) within the past five years.
3. The nominating parties must provide evidence of the nominated person's achievements and contributions using the form on the website.
4. General Committee members of the History Council of South Australia are not eligible to apply.

A panel of expert members of the historical profession is appointed annually by the History Council of South Australia to serve as judges. The judges' decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into. The History Council of South Australia reserves the right not to make an award in any year.

## Oral History Excellence

Since 2021-2022, in conjunction with Oral History Australia SA/NT, the Oral History Excellence Award has been included as part of the HCSA Historian Awards. This award recognises an innovative, excellent and inspirational use of oral history for its awareness, whole of life, community events, social issues, or artefacts.

The Oral History Excellence award winner will receive a citation, certificate, and a gift to be presented at an annual awards ceremony traditionally held during the History Festival. The winner will also receive free membership with Oral History Australia SA/NT for the following financial year.

Self-nominations for this award are accepted.

### Eligibility and Criteria

Nominations for the Oral History Excellence award must be made by filling in the application form linked on the website.

1. The nominated person or group must be a resident/s of South Australia, or have produced oral history/s primarily based in South Australia.
2. The nominated oral historian must have made an innovative, excellent, and inspirational use of oral history for its awareness, whole of life, community events, social issues, or artefacts.
3. The nominating parties must provide evidence of achievements and contributions using the form on the website.
4. General Committee members of the History Council of South Australia are not eligible to apply.

A panel of expert members of the historical profession is appointed annually by the History Council of South Australia to serve as judges. The judges' decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into. The History Council of South Australia reserves the right not to make an award in any year.