

Awards of the High Plains Society for Applied Anthropology

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The High Plains Society for Applied Anthropology (HPSfAA) currently has three awards bestowed at the annual conference: the Omer C. Stewart Memorial Award, the Friedl and Martha Lang Student Award in Applied Anthropology, and the Bristlecone Pine Award. Deward Walker proposed the Omer Stewart award at a meeting in 1993 of the Board of Directors, which immediately approved the idea. The first recipient was Mickey Crespie, Senior Anthropologist, National Park Service, at the 1993 annual conference held at the Denver Museum of Natural History (now the Denver Museum of Nature and Science). The Friedl and Martha Lang Student Award followed in 1999 and the Bristlecone Pine Award in 2007. The HPSfAA Bylaws were amended in 2007 to establish an Awards Committee consisting of the President, Past President, and President-Elect to select awardees and plan for the presentation of awards. The President may add others to the committee, such as the student representative to the board and the chair of the annual conference. A summary of the awards follows.

The Omer C. Stewart Memorial Award

The Omer C. Stewart Memorial Award is awarded each spring at the association's annual conference to recognize significant contributions to applied anthropology. Dr. Stewart was one of the founding members of the HPSfAA and one of the foremost anthropologists of his day. His ethnographic and ethnohistoric research into the Peyote religion revealed vast areas of cultural change among American Indians. His advocacy for American Indians included a relentless commitment to their religious freedom and to gaining compensation for their losses of traditional homelands. Many have had the honor of working or studying with Dr. Stewart during his tenure at the University of Colorado. For others this award is a reminder of our links with

previous anthropologists and that the torch is being passed to current and future generations. Omer's epitaph reads as follows:

Omer was a distinguished humanist, challenging teacher, loyal friend, and formidable adversary. He spent his life battling racism, ethnocentrism, imperialism, and their consequences among American Indians. Anthropology was his weapon. Conscience was his guide.

Epitaph for Omer Stewart by Deward Walker

A list of past recipients of the Omer C. Stewart Memorial Award follows.

- (1) Muriel K. Crespi, National Park Service, for 1993
- (2) Robert A. Hackenberg, University of Colorado at Boulder, for 1994
- (3) Deward E. Walker, Jr., University of Colorado at Boulder, for 1995
- (4) Darwin D. Solomon, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, for 1996
- (5) Donald D. Stull, University of Kansas, for 1997
- (6) Gottfried O. Lang, University of Colorado at Boulder (Emeritus), for 1998
- (7) Howard F. Stein, University of Oklahoma, for 1999
- (8) Carla N. Littlefield, Littlefield Associates, for 2000
- (9) Kenneth M. Keller, Metropolitan State College of Denver, for 2001
- (10) Peter W. Van Arsdale, Colorado Mental Health Institute and University of Denver, for 2002
- (11) John van Willigen, University of Kentucky, for 2003
- (12) Edward C. Knop, Colorado State University, for 2004

- (13) Pamela J. Puntteney, Environmental and Human Systems Management of Michigan, for 2005
- (14) Lenora Bohren, Colorado State University, for 2006
- (15) Lawrence F. Van Horn, National Park Service, for 2007
- (16) Pennie L. Magee, Magee Consulting, for 2008

The Friedl and Martha Lang Student Award in Applied Anthropology

This award, which was established in spring 1999, is in honor of Friedl Lang, Professor Emeritus of the University of Colorado, and his wife, Martha, to acknowledge their contributions to students as well as to HPSfAA. Recipients present his/her paper or project at the annual conference; receive a framed award certificate; publish his/her paper or project in the *Applied Anthropologist*; and receive free room and board for the conference, one year's membership in HPSfAA, and a cash award of \$100.

Here follows past recipients of the Friedl and Martha Lang Student Award in Applied Anthropology.

- (1) James Schechter, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Anthropology, University of Colorado at Boulder. "Anthropological Theory and Fieldwork: Problem Solving Tools for Forced Migration Issues," for 2000
- (2) Kurt T. Mantonya, M.A., Candidate, Department of Anthropology, University of Nebraska, Lincoln. "Contamination Nation," for 2001
- (3) Rebekah Bennetch, B.A. Student, Metropolitan State College of Denver, Colorado. "Composition in the Age of the Dot-Com: How One Virtual Community Served as a Collaborative Learning Group in Response to the Events of September 11, 2001," for 2002

- (4) Abbas Barzegar, B.A. Student, Religious Studies Program, University of Colorado at Boulder. "Latino Muslims in the United States: An Introduction," for 2003
- (5) Christina Dorsey, B.A. Student, University of Nebraska, Lincoln. "An Exploratory Study of Young African-American Fathers in Lincoln, Nebraska," for 2004
- (6) Sarah Case, B.A. Student, University of Colorado at Boulder. "The Dynamics of Tribal Cultural Resource Management: Where Do We Go From Here?" for 2005

There were no student awards given in 2006, 2007, or 2008.

The Bristlecone Pine Award

In 2007, the HPSfAA Board of Directors proposed an amendment to the bylaws to institute the annual Bristlecone Pine Award. As approved by the membership, the amendment charges the Awards Committee to identify a recipient distinguished for their length of service and admirable dedication to HPSfAA, whether as an officer, board member or volunteer. The award was first bestowed on Merun Nasser, HPSfAA Treasurer, at the 2008 Annual Conference for her years of tireless organizational support and financial oversight for the Society.

Notes

1. Thanks to Deward Walker for his permission to reprint his summaries of The Omer C. Stewart Memorial Award and the Friedl and Martha Lang Student Award in Applied Anthropology published in the *HPSfAA Newsletter*, Volume 22, Number 1, January 2002, p.1.