

## 2019 IWMA Awards of Excellence Nominations

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR MUSIC AWARDS:

- CDs can be self-nominated. IF YOU ARE SELF-NOMINATING, please provide the following: A copy of the nominated CD must accompany the Western Album or Cowboy/Western Swing of the Year nomination, a copy of the CD containing a nominated song, or a CD containing only the nominated song must accompany the Song of the Year nomination. Song nomination CDs must be accompanied by either CD artwork, or a photo copy of the artwork, showing the release date.
- In the case of Western Album of the Year and Cowboy/Western Swing Album of the Year, majority of the music on the CD must be of Western content, lyrically or musically. Country Music content does not count as Western Music.
- CDs must have a copyright date and bar code.
- CDs and individual songs, if the nominated songs are not released on an eligible album, must be registered on the IWMA CD Registry before the Nominations Committee can consider them (forms can be downloaded at [www.westernmusic.org/cd-registry](http://www.westernmusic.org/cd-registry))
- Non-IWMA members may be nominated. If a CD released by a non-IWMA member is eligible, or if a non-WMA member is nominated for a performance award, the nominee will be notified of the nomination and given the opportunity to join IWMA. They can decide to become a member of IWMA or decline the nomination and lose eligibility.
- Albums and songs will all have a "birth" date of January 1 of the release year and will be eligible that year and one subsequent year (January 1, 2018 through September 1, 2019).

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR POETRY AWARDS:

#### **COWBOY POETRY CD of THE YEAR**

##### **REQUIREMENTS**

- CDs may be self-nominated. If you are self-nominating, a copy of the nominated CD must be submitted with the nomination.
- CDs must have a copyright date.
- CDs must have a bar code.
- Non-IWMA members may be nominated. If a CD released by a non-IWMA member is eligible, the nominee will be notified of the nomination and given the opportunity to join IWMA. They can decide to become a member of IWMA or decline the nomination and lost eligibility.
- All CDs will have a "birth date" of January 1 of the release year and will be eligible that year plus one subsequent year (January 1, 2018 through September 1, 2019).
- Poems written in free verse or blank verse are not eligible.
- 75% of the CD racks must be Cowboy Poetry, written and recited by a single person; the reciter must be the principal author of the poetry. The poetry must be the original work of the reciter, written in rhythm, rhyme and meter.
- 25% of the CD tracks may contain other material including:
  - Western Music, pre-recorded or live,
  - Prose, including short stories or spoken introductions,
  - Material written by someone other than the collaborators,
  - Poetry recited by someone other than the principal author, including poetry written by the principal author.
- Collaboration in writing is permitted. In the event a poem is written by the collaboration of two or more persons, one of the collaborators must be named as the "principal" author. The other collaborators will be regarded as co-authors. Editors are considered collaborators.
- Collaboration in reciting is not eligible. Any poetry tracks that are recited by other than the principal author, regardless of authorship of the poem, will not count toward the 75% Cowboy Poetry requirement.

##### **BACKGROUND MUSIC**

- Background music performed for the poetry CD is permitted. Music need not be original.
- Background music must be Western.
- Background music imported from an external source (CD, radio, etc.) is permitted. Such music must be properly licensed for inclusion in the poetry CD.

#### **COWBOY POETRY BOOK of THE YEAR**

*Poetry is defined as works containing rhyme and meter. Although the book's content may include short prose and free verse, the poetry alone will be judged in meeting criteria for eligibility. Anything that is not poetry as hereby described, including free verse, will be classified as prose.*

- 50% of the book must be "poetry" with rhyme and meter and must be original work written by the author of the book.
- 50% of those poems (criteria #1) must be 20 lines or more in length.
- Books must have ISBN# and copyright date and must be registered with the IWMA when released (online form on the WMA site)
- Credits for poems used as a "cover" and poems written by someone other than the author of the book (including anonymous works) must be given. Poems not written by the author of the book will be considered "prose" and will not qualify for the 50% eligibility criteria as described above.
- Books written by multiple authors are not eligible.
- All books will have a "birth" date of January 1 of the copyright year. Eligibility is for that year, plus two subsequent years.
- Non-IWMA authors may be nominated. They will be notified that they have been nominated and be given a chance to become a member to win the award. At that time, they can choose to become a member or decline the nomination and lose eligibility.
- A reprint of a book published in a previous award year is not eligible.

**IWMA Awards of Excellence  
2018 NOMINATIONS BALLOT**

**WESTERN ALBUM of THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) albums. *Award for an outstanding recorded performance by an artist or artists released during the specified time period. The award recognizes the featured artist(s) and producer. It is a juried award.*

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**COWBOY SWING ALBUM of THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) albums. *This award is for an outstanding cowboy swing recorded performance which was either commercially released or showed significant chart action during the eligibility period. The award recognizes the featured artist(s) and the producer. It is a juried award.*

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**SONG of THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) songs. *This Award is for any song which was released or showed significant chart action within the eligibility period. Any song which has been nominated for this award in previous years or has been recorded in previous years is ineligible. The award recognizes the songwriter.*

**Song:** \_\_\_\_\_

Written by: \_\_\_\_\_ Performed by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Song:** \_\_\_\_\_

Written by: \_\_\_\_\_ Performed by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Song:** \_\_\_\_\_

Written by: \_\_\_\_\_ Performed by: \_\_\_\_\_

**WORKING COWBOY SONG OF THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) songs. *This award goes to a song recorded within the eligibility period that speaks expressly and clearly to real, authentic working cowboy life, historic or current. The award goes to the songwriter(s) and is based on lyrics, not performance. **SONGWRITERS: please submit a copy of the lyrics with your nomination.** This is a juried award.*

**Song:** \_\_\_\_\_

Written by: \_\_\_\_\_ Performed by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Song:** \_\_\_\_\_

Written by: \_\_\_\_\_ Performed by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Song:** \_\_\_\_\_

Written by: \_\_\_\_\_ Performed by: \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUMENTALIST of THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) instrumentalists. *This award is for the instrumental artist who has shown an extraordinary mastery of his/her instrument(s) on recorded and/or in-person performance during the specified time period. The award recognizes the artist.*

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**MALE PERFORMER of THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) male performers. *Award for the outstanding male vocalist based on recorded and in-person performance. The award recognizes the artist.*

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**FEMALE PERFORMER of THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) female performers. *Award for the outstanding female vocalist based on recorded and in-person performance. The award recognizes the artist.*

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**DUO or GROUP OF THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) duos or groups. Award for a group or duo who regularly performs together that has shown outstanding recorded and in-person performance vocally. The award recognizes the performing group or duo for their excellence.

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**ENTERTAINER of THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) entertainers. This award is for the performing act who displayed the greatest competence in all aspects of the entertainment field. Consideration will be given to recorded and in-person performance, public acceptance, attitude, leadership, entertainment value of performances, and over-all contributions to the western music image. The award recognizes the entertainer or group.

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**SONGWRITER of THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) songwriters. Award for outstanding songs written in the past year by a songwriter(s). Commercial release and number of songs recorded during the year are to be considered. The award recognizes the songwriter(s) and is a juried award.

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**LIZ MASTERSON CRESCENDO AWARD** Nominate up to three (3) individuals or groups. This award is for a group or individual, under 21, having made considerable advances artistically and/or commercially during the eligibility period. The band or individual should be performing under its/his/her name on a regular basis. The award recognizes the group or individual artist.

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**RADIO DJ/RADIO PROGRAM of THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) radio DJs/radio programs. This award recognizes outstanding service to western music in the field of broadcasting. The recipient will be judged for contributions to the field western music, professionalism, work and involvement in the western music community, and promotion and fostering of the western music image.

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**COWBOY POETRY CD of THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) CDs. The purpose of this award is to recognize outstanding achievement on writing, reciting and recording original Cowboy Poetry. The award recognizes the poet.

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**COWBOY POETRY BOOK of THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) books.

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**MALE POET of THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) male poets. This award is for the person who exhibits the ability to write original Cowboy/Western poetry or verse, who writes or expresses himself with imaginative power and beauty of thought, language and form. He performs original work but may occasionally perform the work of others to live audiences who showing the ability to enable audiences to develop a deeper understanding and appreciate of the Western lifestyle and history (with accuracy) through his performance.

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**FEMALE POET of THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) female poets. This award is for the person who exhibits the ability to write original Cowboy/Western poetry or verse, who writes or expresses herself with imaginative power and beauty of thought, language and form. She performs original work but may occasionally perform the work of others to live audiences who showing the ability to enable audiences to develop a deeper understanding and appreciate of the Western lifestyle and history (with accuracy) through her performance.

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ballot must be postmarked or emailed on or before September 5, 2019 to be counted:  
IWMA Awards, PO Box 648, Coppell, TX 75019 or info@westernmusic.org**