

INDIANA BLACKSMITHING ASSOCIATION BLACKSMITH OF THE YEAR - GUIDELINES

Nominations for Blacksmith of the Year must be returned to the chairperson of the Awards Committee no later than April 1st.

The candidate must be an IBA member in good standing and must be nominated by one of the satellite groups or have a petition signed by three (3) members of the IBA in good standing.

The nominating group should describe the candidate's history, accomplishments, outstanding skills, contribution to blacksmithing and/or the IBA, and reasons for why the candidate should be Blacksmith of the Year. A nomination form can be found at the IBA web site (<http://www.indianablacksmithing.org/>).

Examples of work (and/or photographs of work) demonstrating the candidate's workmanship should be placed on display at the annual IBA Conference. We encourage the candidate to donate some or all of these items for auction at the Conference. All items must be clearly marked as either "For Auction" or "Not for Auction." Items submitted for auction should be given to the auction coordinator by noon on Saturday of the Conference.

The Blacksmith of the Year will be selected by the Awards Committee together with the Education chairperson and the current Blacksmith of the Year. Selection will be based upon the nomination material specified above, the workmanship demonstrated in the submitted examples of work, and the selection committee's direct experience of the candidate.

Announcement of the winner will be made at the Saturday evening auction at the Conference.

The Blacksmith of the Year winner will receive a plaque and free registration at the next IBA Conference. The recipient is encouraged to write an article for the *Forge Fire* on a topic of his/her choosing. Alternatively, the recipient is encouraged to be interviewed by the IBA for an article in the *Forge Fire*.

Send completed forms to:
Chairperson of the Awards Committee
(at the address that can be found on the first page of the *Forge Fire*)