

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Texas Historical Commission Awards (1960 to present)

Governor's Award for Historic Preservation *(created 1991)*

- 2025 – Texas Archive of the Moving Image (Organization)
- 2025 – Rudi R. Rodriguez (Individual)
- 2024 – University of North Texas, The Portal to Texas History (Organization)
- 2024 – George W. Hill Family (Individual)
- 2023 – Texas Society Daughters of the American Revolution
- 2022 – Baylor Institute for Oral History
- 2021 – Texas Dance Hall Preservation, Inc.
- 2020 – Community Historical Archaeology Project with Schools (CHAPS), University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
- 2019 – Apollo Mission Control Center Restoration Team, Houston
- 2018 – Texas Heritage Trail Regions Boards of Directors
- 2017 – Betty Oglesbee
- 2016 – no award given
- 2015 – Texas Land Title Association, Austin
- 2014 – Truett and Harriet Latimer, Houston
- 2013 – Texas State Historical Association's Junior Historians of Texas program, Statewide
- 2012 – Old Spanish Missions, Inc.
- 2011 – Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Wildland Firefighting Teams, Statewide
- 2010 – Clarabelle Snodgrass, Kerrville
- 2009 – Frank and Mary Yturria, Brownsville
- 2008 – Historic Fort Worth, Inc.
- 2007 – Dr. Kathleen Kirk Gilmore, Dallas
- 2006 – San Antonio Conservation Society
- 2005 – Independent Bankers Association of Texas
- 2004 – Daughters of the Republic of Texas
- 2003 – Julian Read, Austin
- 2002 – Dodge Jones Foundation, Abilene
- 2001 – Judge Jim Lovett
- 2000 – Summerlee Foundation
- 1999 – Harold Courson
- 1998 – Houston Endowment
- 1997 – Dealey Herndon, Austin
- 1996 – F. Lee Lawrence
- 1995 – George and Cynthia Mitchell
- 1994 – Dr. David C. De Boe and the Educational Services of the Texas State Historical Association
- 1993 – Texas Highways
- 1992 – The Meadows Foundation
- 1991 – Galveston Historical Foundation

John L. Nau, III Award of Excellence in Museums *(created 2002)*

- 2025 – Buffalo Soldiers National Museum
- 2024 – Red River Valley Museum

2023 – Bastrop County Museum and Visitor Center
2022 – Irving Archives and Museum
2021 – Bell County Museum
2020 – Harrison County Historical Museum
2019 – Kimble County Heritage Center
2018 – Frontier Texas
2017 – Museum of the Coastal Bend at Victoria College
2016 – no award given
2015 – Mary Jon and J.P. Bryan, The Bryan Museum, Galveston
2014 – Robert Oliver, Chisholm Trail Museum, Cuero
2013 – Newton Warzecha, Presidio la Bahia, Goliad
2012 – Gene Galbraith, Southwest Museum of Clocks & Watches
2011 – Dr. Shawn B. Carlson, Republic of Texas Museum
2010 – Howard Taylor, San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, San Angelo
2009 – Sharon Chamblee, Chair, Mineola Historical Museum Board
2008 – Virginia Scott, Wolf Creek Heritage Museum, Lipscomb
2007 – Larry Francell, Museum of the Big Bend, Alpine
2006 – Priscilla Rodriguez, Brownsville Heritage Complex
2005 – Christopher Dyer, Williamson County Historical Museum
2004 – Mary L. Irving, Railroad & Heritage Museum, Temple
2003 – Thomas A. Fort, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg
2002 – Jeff West, Sixth Floor Museum, Dallas

Glenda Morgan Award of Excellence in Museums (*superseded by John L. Nau Award in 2002 – see above*)

2001 – Stephanie Turnham, Bell County Museum, Belton
2000 – Helen C. Alexander, Bellville
1999 – Dr. T. Lindsay Baker, Texas Heritage Museum, Hillsboro
1998 – no nominations received
1997 – no nominations received
1996 – Sam P. Hoyle, El Paso
1995 – Margaret H. McAllen
1994 – Verna Anne Wheeler, Crosbyton
1993 – Mildred Padon
1992 – John F. Vaughan, Fort Concho National Historic Landmark
1991 – Eve Bartlett, Wharton County Historical Museum
1990 – no nominations received
1989 – The Institute of Texas Cultures, San Antonio
1988 – Georgia Mae Ericson, Crosby County Pioneer Memorial Museum, Crosbyton
1988 – Ranching Heritage, Texas Tech University, Lubbock
1987 – Jo Stewart Randel, Carson County Squarehouse Museum, Panhandle
1986 – Helmuth Naumer, San Antonio Museum Association
1985 – Aalbert Heine, retired, Corpus Christi Museum
1984 – Charles McLaughlin, retired, McAllen International Museum, Harris County Heritage Society

Ruth Lester Lifetime Achievement Award
(*Highest Honor before Governor's Award*)

2025 – Bill Warren

2024 – Becky Kauffman
2023 – Pam Wheat-Stranahan
2022 – Dr. Lucile Estell
2021 – Marshall J. Doke, Jr.
2020 – Lareatha Clay
2019 – Betty Bueche
2018 – Steven and Susan Kline
2017 – Gene Krane
Award suspended in 2011 until 2017 (due to 2011 staffing cuts)
2010 – Jean Ann Ables-Flatt, Terrell
2009 – Alecyia Gallaway, Galveston County Historical Commission
 Leon Metz, El Paso
2008 – Elizabeth Torrence, Bosque County Historical Commission
2007 – Peggy Tobin, Bandera County Historical Commission
2006 – Al Davis, Harris County Historical Commission
2005 – Dr. Gwen K. Smith, San Marcos
2004 – no award given
2003 – Margaret Walberg, Nueces County Historical Commission
2002 – Mary Belle Ingram, Matagorda County Historical Commission
2001 – Bill Quick, Jefferson County Historical Commission
2001 – The Rev. Balthazar Janacek, San Antonio
2001 – Eliza Bishop, Houston County Historical Commission
2000 – Lela Standifer, Tarrant County Historical Commission
1999 – Curtis Tunnell
1998 – Curtis Meadows and Sally Lancaster, The Meadows Foundation
1997 – George Christian, Austin
1996 – Lucille Robertson
1995 – F. Lee Lawrence
1994 – Mary Altman Yturria
1993 – Frances Stovall
1992 – Katy F. Caver, Texarkana Museums Systems
1991 – no award given
1990 – Margaret Ramage
1989 – Dr. D.J. Sibley
1988 – The Heritage Society of Austin
1987 – The Meadows Foundation
1986 – Shirley Caldwell
1985 – Historic Preservation League of Dallas
1984 – Texas State Historical Association
1983 – Watkins Reynolds (Watt) Matthews
1982 – Bass Brothers
1981 – Rita Clements (Mrs. William P. Clements, Jr.)
1980 – Mrs. Reuben Adams
1979 – Mrs. Maurice C. Barnes
1978 – Texas Archeological Society
1977 – O'Neil Ford
1976 – Citizens of Granbury, Texas
1975 – Walter N. Mathis
1974 – Dr. and Mrs. W.C. Holden
1973 – Harris County Heritage Society
1972 – Dr. Rupert N. Richardson
1971 – Jo Stewart Randel

1970 – Mary Moody Northen
1969 – John Ben Shepperd
1968 – Mrs. John (Nellie) Connally
1967 – Miss Ima Hogg
1966 – Mrs. Charles L. (Faith) Bybee
1965 – Lady Bird Johnson
1964 – Mrs. Thomas (Kathryn) O'Connor
1963 – Robert C. Wells
1962 – Jessie Allen Wise Garden Club, Jefferson, Texas
1961 – San Antonio Conservation Society
1960 – Governor Price Daniel

John Ben Shepperd County Historical Commission Leadership Award

2025 – Paula Ross, Collin County Historical Commission
2024 – Larry Foerster, Montgomery County Historical Commission
2023 – Bob Ward, Travis County Historical Commission
2022 – Harry Bob Martin, Dickens County Historical Commission
2021 – B.F. Hicks, Franklin County Historical Commission
2020 – Sandy Fortenberry, Lubbock County Historical Commission
2019 – Kate Johnson, Hays County Historical Commission
2018 – Geri Burnett, Milam County Historical Commission
2017 – Ona Lea Pierce, Matagorda County Historical Commission
Award suspended in 2011 until 2017 (due to 2011 staffing cuts)
2010 – Doug Braudaway, Val Verde County Historical Commission
2009 – Kate Johnson, Hays County Historical Commission
2008 – Dr. Lucile Estell, Milam County Historical Commission
2007 – no nominations received
2006 – Dr. Barbara Welder, Bee County Historical Commission
2005 – Bernard J. Sargent, El Paso County Historical Commission
2004 – Tammy Kubecka, Burleson County Historical Commission
2003 – Willie Braudaway, Val Verde County Historical Commission
2002 – M. Joy Graham, Milam County Historical Commission
2001 – Sylvia Stanford Smith, Ellis County Historical Commission
2000 – Marcia Lockwood, Crosby County Historical Commission
1999 – Tom Middlebrook, Nacogdoches (Texas Archeological Society)
1999 – Elizabeth Heath, Ward County Historical Commission
1999 – Kay Hindes, Atascosa County Historical Commission
1997 – Jean Sims, Dallas County Historical Commission
1996 – Susan Murrin Pritchett, Tarrant County Historical Commission
1996 – Walter E. Plitt, III, Palo Alto National Battlefield Committee
1995 – Bonnie L. Smith, Newton County Historical Commission
1995 – Al Davis, Harris County Historical Commission
1994 – Lurlene Urban, Goliad County Historical Commission
1994 – Joye K. Evetts, Tarrant County Historical Commission
1994 – Carl Schoening, Coryell County Historical Commission
1994 – John Allen Templeton, Cherokee County Historical Commission
1993 – Audrey Kariel, Harrison County Historical Commission
1993 – Sandy Pickett, Liberty County Historical Commission
1992 – Lila Stillson, Hays County Historical Commission
1992 – Golda M. Foster, Tom Green County Historical Commission

George Christian Volunteer of the Year Award

2025 – Steph McDougal
2024 – Minnette Boesel
2023 – Harold A. Odom, Jr.
2022 – Joe D. Plunkett
2021 – Graciela Gonzales
2020 – John R. Dulin, Rusk County
2019 – Sylvia Tillotson, Friends of Casa Navarro
2018 – Karen Boyd, Comal CHC
2017 – Jeffery M. Williams, Friends of Caddo Mounds
Award suspended in 2011 until 2017 (due to 2011 staffing cuts)
2010 – Randy Riepe and Pastor Robert Robertson, Houston
2009 – J. Travis Roberts, Brewster County Historical Commission
2008 – George Keeling, Levelland Main Street Program
2007 – David E. Hollingsworth, Williamson CHC
2006 – David Evans, Bell County Historical Commission
2005 – Lynne Spivey, Atlanta
2004 – Ann Bethel, Kerr County Historical Commission
2003 – Elizabeth Torrence, Bosque County Historical Commission
2002 – Albert F. “Boo” Hausser, San Antonio and Castroville
2001 – no award given
2000 – Mell and Edna Cherry, Crosby County Historical Commission
2000 – Miriam Smith Vale, Starr County Historical Commission
1999 – Alvin Lynn, Amarillo
1999 – Cathy Dillon, Heritage Association of San Marcos
1999 – Willie Lee Gay, Houston
1997 – Mary Bonner, Heritage Association of San Marcos
1997 – Julian Read, Austin
1997 – R. D. Morrison, Hutchinson County Historical Commission
1996 – Jeffrey H. Kester, San Marcos
1996 – Cleo McGraw Morrison, Borger
1995 – H. Oscar Lochridge, Fort Worth
1995 – Reed Parr, San Marcos
1994 – E. Paul Koeppel, Fort Worth
1994 – Collier A. Campbell, Texas City
1994 – Beatta T. Drake, Borger
1994 – Gra’Delle Duncan, Killeen
1994 – Winton Porterfield, San Marcos
1994 – Marjorie Perkins, Marshall
1993 – Arthur Weinman, Tarrant County Historical Commission
1993 – Julia Jenkins, Hudspeth County Historical Commission
1993 – Claire Smullen, Hays County Historical Commission
1993 – Fran Isbell, Hidalgo County Historical Commission
1992 – Virginia Haynie Gause, Hidalgo County Historical Commission
1992 – Johnnie Armstead, Hays County Historical Commission
1992 – Tom Hymer, Fannin County Historical Commission
1992 – Joye Evetts, Tarrant County Historical Commission
1992 – Joan Earnest, Tom Green County Historical Commission

Award of Excellence in Preserving History

2025 – Shumla Archaeological Research & Education Center

2024 – Melinda Creech, Ph.D

2023 – Texas Tech University Southwest Collection

2022 – Sit Down to Take a Stand, Dr Pepper Museum

2021 – Southlake Historical Society

2020 – Sons of the Republic of Texas, Sam Houston Chapter, and University of Texas at San Antonio Libraries Special Collections Department, *Kathryn Stoner O'Connor Mexican Manuscript Collection* digitization effort

2019 – University of North Texas Portal to Texas History's *Texas Borderlands Newspaper Collection*

2018 – Downtown Austin Alliance, FERMATA, Inc., and Austin Parks and Recreation Department (Our Austin Story)

2017 – Tom Weger, Montague County

Award suspended in 2011 until 2017 (due to 2011 staffing cuts)

2010 -- Dr. Stephen Sloan, Dr. Lois Myers and Elinor Maze, Baylor Institute for Oral History, Waco

2009 – Port Aransas Preservation and Historical Association

2008 – Educational Committee of the Collin County Historical Commission for “Carry Along Collin”

2008 – Susan Chandoha, Los Compadres (Friends of Missions de San Antonio National Park), San Antonio

2007 – City of College Station Project HOLD

2006 – no award given

2005 – Brazos County Texas in World War II Steering Committee

2004 – Dallas Municipal Archives, Dallas

2003 – Bill Young and Bruce McManus, Navarro County

2002 – Jenkins and Virginia Garrett, Fort Worth

2001 – Elizabeth Branch, Goliad

2001 – Newton County Historical Commission

2001 – Evelyn Lord, Spindletop 2001 Centennial Commission

2000 – Jennifer A. Stabler, Bell County

2000 – East Bell County Genealogical Society

2000 – Caldwell County Commissioners Court

1999 – Gregg County Historical Commission

1999 – Forest Glen Productions, Austin

1999 – Taylor County Historical Commission & Abilene Independent School District

1998 – City of Palestine Historical Preservation Commission

1997 – Chireno Historical Society, Nacogdoches County

1997 – Bishop College Historical Society, Dallas

1997 – Hays County Commissioners Court

1996 – Dr. Leo S. Bielinski, Aledo

1996 – Martha Doty Freeman, Austin

1995 – City of Socorro Historical Landmark Commission

1995 – Lillian Lesbia Ward Roberts, Fort Worth

1994 – Texas Forestry Museum, East Texas Sawmill Database project

1994 – City of Brownsville, Heritage Trail program

1994 – City of Nacogdoches Historic Landmark Preservation Committee

1993 – Abilene Preservation League

1993 – KEDT-TV, Corpus Christi

1993 – Nuestra Señora del Refugio Restoration Committee

1992 – Messye Mae Roach

1992 – Robert Norton

1992 – Daniel Hardy

1991 – Mary Belle Ingram

1991 – Albert S. McGehee II

1991 – Nia Becnel

Award of Excellence in Historic Architecture

2025 – Mission San Jose

2024 – Mason County Courthouse

2023 – Bellville Turnverein Pavilion

2022 – New Travis County Probate Courts

2021 – MRE Capital

2020 – Dohn LaBiche, FAIA / LaBiche Architectural Group

2019 – no award given

2018 – Merriman Anderson/Architects

2017 – Robert J. Ruiz, Brownsville

Award suspended in 2011 until 2017 (due to 2011 staffing cuts)

2010 – Emily Little and Ken Thomas, Clayton and Little Architects, Austin

2009 – Barry Wagner and Stan Klein, Wagner & Klein Architects, Fredericksburg

2008 – no award given

2007 – Komatsu Architecture, Fort Worth

2006 – Bailey Architects, Houston

2005 – Joe Stubblefield, AIA, San Antonio

2004 – Frank M. Rotnofsky, AIA, Laredo

2003 – no award given

2002 – Paul Koeppel, Fort Worth

2001 – Rick Weatherl, Abilene (Architecture)

2001 – Elizabeth Skidmore Sasser, Ph.D., Lubbock (Research)

2001 – E. A. Young and Mary Pauline & Jim Yarbrough (Craftsmanship)

2000 – Smith Studios (category: Craftsmanship)

2000 – Stuart Dean, Texas Division (category: Craftsmanship)

2000 – Steve Kline, AIA (category: Architecture)

1999 – Volz & Associates, Austin (category: Architecture)

1999 – Stashka Star, Dallas (category: Craftsmanship)

1999 – School of Architecture, UT Austin (category: Research)

1998 – Hubert Welch, Jr., AIA, Abilene (category: Architecture)

1998 – Stephen Fox, Houston (category: Research)

1998 – Dr. Thomas Tocco, Fort Worth Independent School District (category: Karr Award for Historic Schools)

1997 – Leeds Clark Restoration (in memory of John Garcia), Ennis (category: Craftsmanship)

1997 – ArchiTexas, Dallas (category: Architecture)

1997 – Carlos Rugerio, Roma (category: Research)

1997 – Ysleta Independent School District, Ysleta (category: Karr Award for Historic Schools)

1996 – Zion Lutheran Church of Helotes (category: Architecture)

1996 – U.S. Army, Fort San Houston, and Construction Engineering Research Laboratories (category: Research)

1996 – Klein Independent School District

1995 – Daniel V. Bartosh III (category: Architecture)

1995 – Clyde Smith (category: Craftsmanship)

1995 – Fredericksburg Independent School District (category: Karr Award for Historic Schools)

1994 – Randal B. Gilbert (category: Architecture)

1994 – Robert Steinbomer (category: Research)

1994 – Austin Independent School District, Pease Elementary School (category: Karr Award for Historic Schools)

1993 – ArchiTexas (category: Research)

- 1993 – Jim Rome (category: Architecture)
- 1993 – Thomas Dreyer (category: Craftsmanship)
- 1993 – Dan Leach (category: Craftsmanship)
- 1992 – David Watson (category: Architecture)
- 1992 – Willard B. Robinson (category: Research)
- 1992 – St. Mary's Catholic Church, Victoria, and Conrad Schmidt Studios, Inc. (category: Craftsmanship)

Curtis D. Tunnell Lifetime Achievement Award in Archeology (*created 2002*)

- 2025 – Thomas R. Hester
- 2024 – Ron William Ralph
- 2023 – Margaret Howard
- 2022 – Donny Leon Hamilton
- 2021 – Christopher R. Lintz
- 2020 – Kay Hindes, San Antonio
- 2019 – Alvin Lynn
- 2018 – Bill Birmingham
- 2017 – Dr. Carolyn Boyd
- Award suspended in 2011 until 2017 (due to 2011 staffing cuts)
- 2010 – Teddy Lou Stickney, Midland
- 2009 – Elton Prewitt, Austin
- 2008 – Dr. Dee Ann Story, Wimberley
- 2007 – Dr. Michael B. Collins, Austin
- 2006 – Ellen Sue Turner, San Antonio
- 2005 – Dr. Edward B. Jelks
- 2004 – Dr. James Cordin, Nacogdoches (posthumous award)
- 2003 – Jay C. Blaine, Allen
- 2002 – Dr. Kathleen Gilmore, Dallas

Award of Excellence in Archeology (*superseded by Curtis Tunnell Award in 2002 – see above*)

- 2001 – Dr. Timothy Perttula (category: Archeologist of the Year)
- 2000 – Curtis Tunnell (category: Archeologist of the Year)
- 2000 – J. Michael Quigg (category: Research)
- 2000 – Dusty Bruns (category: Preservation)
- 2000 – L. Paul Tanner (category: Preservation)
- 1999 – Dr. Dee Ann Story, Hays County (category: Archeologist of the Year)
- 1999 – Fred and Kay Campbell (category: Preservation)
- 1999 – Center for Archaeological Research, UTSA (category: Research)
- 1999 – Haas Anderson Construction (category: Research)
- 1999 – Texas Department of Transportation (category: Research)
- 1998 – Dr. E. Mott Davis (category: Archeologist of the Year)
- 1998 – Dr. Thomas N. Campbell (category: Archeologist of the Year)
- 1998 – Stephen L. Black, Linda W. Ellis, Darrell G. Creel & Glenn T. Goode (category: Research)
- 1998 – First Victoria National Bank (category: Preservation)
- 1997 – LeRoy Johnson, Austin (category: Archeologist of the Year)
- 1997 – Douglas K. Boyd, Austin (category: Research)
- 1997 – Keith Cook, U. S. Corps of Engineers
and Elaine Sherman, U. S. Forest Service (category: Preservation)
- 1996 – Texas Department of Transportation (category: Research)

1996 – Robert D. Skiles, General Land Office (category: Preservation)
1996 – Cheryl Lynn Highley, Anna Jean Taylor (category: Archeologist of the Year)
1995 – Dr. James E. Corbin (category: Research)
1995 – The Archaeological Conservancy (category: Preservation)
1995 – Dr. Charles D. Frederick (category: Archeologist of the Year)
1994 – Kay Hindes (category: Research)
1994 – Judge Otis H. Lyckman (category: Preservation)
1994 – Elton R. Prewitt (category: Archeologist of the Year)
1993 – Prewitt and Associates, Inc. (category: Preservation)
1993 – Jay C. Blaine (category: Preservation)
1993 – Dr. Harry Shafer (category: Archeologist of the Year)
1992 – Jack T. Hughes (category: Research)
1992 – Enrique R. Madrid, Jr. (category: Preservation)
1992 – Anne A. Fox (category: Archeologist of the Year)
1991 – Larry D. Banks (category: Research)
1991 – I.E. DuPont Company, Victoria Plant (category: Preservation)
1991 – James H. Word (category: Archeologist of the Year)

Anice B. Read Award of Excellence in Community Heritage Development *(created 2002)*

2025 – Sauer-Beckmann Living History Farm
2024 – Jennifer Hall Eckermann
2023 – Janet Gott, Mayor, Denison
2022 – Nancy Norton Wood
2021 – Beverly Abell
2020 – Linda McCalla, Georgetown
2019 – World Heritage Site Designation Partners
2018 – Beth Duke
2017 – City of Tyler
Award suspended in 2011 until 2017 (due to 2011 staffing cuts)
2010 – Robert “Bob” Montgomery, Denton
2009 – Malinda Veldman, Corsicana Main Street
Kenneth Sloan Gunter—San Angelo
2008 – City of Granbury Historic Preservation Committee
2007 – Chris Mosley, City Attorney, Fort Worth
2006 – Susan Campbell, Bowie Main Street; and Kelly Franks, San Marcos Main Street
2005 – Carole Romano, Castroville
2004 – Ned Muse, City Manager, Pittsburg
2003 – Julie Glover, Main Street Manager, Denton
2002 – City of Mineola

Award of Excellence in Media Achievement *(created 2002)*

2025 – Olive Talley
2024 – Communications and Marketing Department, City of Round Rock
2023 – “Tejano Moments,” TexasTejano.com and KSAT 12
2022 – “Bayoulands,” KVLU
2021 – “Texas Time Travel Stories” on Radio Caravan
2020 – *The Open-Ended City: David Dillon on Texas Architecture*, edited by Kathryn E. Holliday
2019 – Patricia K. Benoit, *Temple Daily Telegram* and *Killeen Daily Herald*

- 2018 – Bexar County and the University of Texas at San Antonio (300th Anniversary of Béjar: Historical GIS (hGIS) Story Maps Project)
- 2017 – *Authentic Texas* magazine
- Award suspended in 2011 until 2017 (due to 2011 staffing cuts)
- 2010 – “The Shape of Texas” radio show, South Texas Public Broadcasting KEDT-FM, Corpus Christi and Statewide outlets
- 2009 – Postcards from Texas—KTBU TV, Channel 55 Houston
- 2008 – Irene Van Winkle, *West Kerr Current*
- 2007 – Mike Snyder, *Houston Chronicle*
- 2006 – No award given
- 2005 – Lisa Gray, *Houston Chronicle*
- 2004 – Lety Laurel and Vianna Davila, *San Antonio Express-News*, San Antonio
- 2003 – Jessie Milligan, *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, Fort Worth
- 2002 – Teena Maenza, *The Brazoria County News*, West Columbia