Do You Know An Outstanding Veterinarian?

Dr. Nancy Caven 2018 OVMA Golden Life Membership Award
Dr. Caven was recognized for her extraordinary service, commitment and leadership within the veterinary profession. A practising veterinarian for almost 40 years, Dr. Caven has been actively involved with provincial and national associations, her local community, and as a mentor to countless veterinary students and practitioners.

Dr. Matthew Croskery 2018 Award of Merit
An ambassador for the profession, Dr. Croskery was praised by his colleagues for his outstanding leadership, volunteers in a personal and professional manner. While operating four practices, he still dedicates time to community outreach, volunteering for more than 10 charitable organizations. Dr. de Wolde was also voted People’s Choice Veterinarian and Veterinary Practice of the Year by his local community.

Dr. Mark de Wolde 2018 Award of Merit
Dr. de Wolde was recognized for his outstanding leadership, volunteerism and personable bedside manner. While operating four practices, he still dedicates time to community outreach, volunteering for more than 10 charitable organizations. Dr. de Wolde was also voted People’s Choice Veterinarian and Veterinary Practice of the Year by his local community.

Dr. Michelle DaCosta 2018 Rising Star Award
An effective communicator with a high level of compassion and commitment, Dr. DaCosta is known for her innate ability to connect with her patients and clients. A skilled practitioner and surgeon, she’s always willing to improve and has initiated several new in-clinic programs and services, along with numerous fundraising initiatives to help animals in need.

How do I nominate someone for an OVMA award?
1. Choose an award category that best suits your proposed candidate.
2. Complete an OVMA Awards Program nomination form.
3. Compile your supporting materials (biography, supporting letters, newspaper clippings, etc.).
4. Mail, email or fax your completed nomination form and supporting materials to OVMA at the address below.
   *Please be sure to include biographical information about your nominee. This will serve as the basis of the award nomination and presentation.

What do award recipients receive?
Award winners will receive an engraved OVMA award, complimentary registration to the OVMA Conference & Trade Show, accommodation for one night at the conference venue, and travel expenses to/from the conference.

When are awards presented?
Awards are presented during the annual OVMA Conference & Trade Show in January. Awards are not automatically awarded on an annual basis, but are awarded when at least one nominee meets the award criteria, as determined by the OVMA Awards Committee and the Board of Directors.

When is the deadline for nominations?
Nominations must be received by Oct. 1 of each year. Nominations will be accepted after Oct. 1, but will not be considered until the following year’s awards program.

About OVMA
Founded in 1980, the Ontario Veterinary Medical Association represents thousands of Ontario veterinarians in private practice, government, academia, industry and public service. Our mandate is to advance and promote excellence in the veterinary profession in Ontario, and to contribute to the betterment of animal health and the protection of human health.

For more information, contact:
OVMA
420 Bronte Street South, Suite 205
Milton, ON L9T 0H9
Tel: 1.800.670.1702
Fax: 1.877.482.5941
info@ovma.org
www.ovma.org

Look Back at Some of Our Past Winners
Since the OVMA Awards Program was established in 1986, more than 80 individuals have been recognized with one of OVMA’s prestigious awards. OVMA award winners have demonstrated a wide range of outstanding work in their communities. Whether it’s volunteering for committees or associations, engaging in volunteer work at home or abroad, or working to improve animal welfare in the province, OVMA’s award winners are improving the veterinary profession each and every day.
The OVMA Awards Program honours those who have made extraordinary contributions to the veterinary profession, and provides OVMA with the opportunity to recognize and share the inspiring and exceptional work being done on behalf of animal welfare, veterinary medicine and the veterinary profession.

OVMA Award recipients are recognized for their achievements in the following ways:

- Award winners are honoured at a ceremony during the annual OVMA Conference & Trade Show.
- Award winner profiles are published in OVMA’s member magazine, Focus.
- Award winners are announced on the OVMA website (www.ovma.org) and OVMA social media sites.
- Press releases are distributed to media in the recipient’s local community.

**Award Categories & Requirements**

Nominees must meet the eligibility criteria and nomination requirements for each award as outlined below. Additional supporting materials are required.

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**Outstanding Veterinarian Award**

This award is presented to a veterinarian for outstanding contributions to the veterinary profession.

**Eligibility/Requirements:** All veterinarians of OVMA are eligible. Nominees should demonstrate a suitable background of leadership in professional associations at the regional, provincial and/or national levels, plus involvement in the community leading to an enhanced image of veterinarians and/or the profession. A minimum of two letters of recommendation from two veterinarians—one of whom is an OVMA member—must accompany each nomination.

**Honorary Membership Award**

This award is presented to someone who is not a veterinarian but has contributed to animal welfare and/or the veterinary profession.

**Eligibility/Requirements:** Any person, other than a veterinarian, who has served the interests of the veterinary profession through various endeavours. A minimum of two supporting letters, both from OVMA member veterinarians, must accompany each nomination.

**Golden Life Membership Award**

This award recognizes OVMA members who are retired from full-time career pursuits of veterinary medicine or who have been a veterinarian for a minimum of 30 years and have served the profession in an extraordinary manner. Recipients receive an honorary lifetime OVMA membership.

**Eligibility/Requirements:** OVMA member veterinarians who are either retired or have been a veterinarian for a minimum of 30 years. A minimum of two supporting letters, both from OVMA member veterinarians, must accompany each nomination.

**Associate of the Year Award**

This award recognizes individuals for their practice of, or help to, veterinary medicine. It is awarded for distinguished public service to the veterinary profession in any form.

**Eligibility/Requirements:** All veterinarians who are members of OVMA are eligible for nomination. Candidates may be nominated by the general public or by members of the veterinary profession. Supporting letters from members of the animal health sector, veterinarians or the general public must accompany each nomination.

**Award of the Year Award**

This award is presented to an associate veterinarian who has demonstrated superior customer service and has proven to be an asset to their practice as well as their community.

**Eligibility/Requirements:** All associate veterinarians who are OVMA members and who graduated more than five years ago are eligible for nomination. Nominees must demonstrate a suitable background of leadership in professional associations at local or provincial levels. A minimum of two supporting letters are required: one from a staff member, and one from an OVMA clinic owner at their place of employment. The nomination should also include one letter from a client that can be requested by the clinic staff in support of the nomination.

**Rising Star Award**

This award is presented to an associate veterinarian who has demonstrated superior leadership in their place of employment and their community for the betterment of animal welfare and/or their clients and/or their colleagues in the veterinary profession.

**Eligibility/Requirements:** All associate veterinarians who are OVMA members and who graduated five years ago or less are eligible for nomination. Nominees should demonstrate a suitable background of client and patient service, and should be recognized as a leader in their clinic, community, or in organizations at the local or provincial level. Their exceptional conduct should reflect an overall positive image of the veterinary profession. A minimum of two supporting letters are required: one from a staff member and one from an OVMA clinic owner at their place of employment. The nomination should also include one letter from a client that can be requested by the clinic staff in support of the nomination.

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**OVMA Awards Program Nomination Form**

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<th>Name of Nominee</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Telephone Number</td>
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<td>Email Address</td>
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Is the Nominee an OVMA member? ☐ Yes ☐ No

I would like to nominate the above named Nominee for the following award:

- [ ] Outstanding Veterinarian Award
- [ ] Honorary Membership Award
- [ ] Golden Life Membership Award
- [ ] Award of Merit
- [ ] Associate of the Year Award
- [ ] Rising Star Award

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Are You an OVMA Member? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please return this form, along with all supporting nomination materials to:

OVMA Awards Program
420 Bronte Street South, Suite 205
Milton, ON L9T 0H9
Toll-free fax: 1.877.482.5941