



2026 Dorothy Bowles Award for Outstanding Public Service

Deadline for nominations: March 1, 2026

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2026 Dorothy Bowles Award for Outstanding Public Service.

The Dorothy Bowles Award for Outstanding Public Service recognizes an AEJMC member who has a sustained and significant public-service record that has helped build bridges between academics and professionals in mass communications, either nationally or locally, and been actively engaged within the association.

Ideally the award will go to an AEJMC member who has been active in one or more divisions/interest groups, elected standing committees or other association leadership positions AND who has engaged with other communication industry-related organizations (such as the Student Press Law Center, Society of Professional Journalists, Journalism Education Association, Public Relations Society of America, National Association of Broadcasters, etc.) OR done other work locally to promote interaction between academics and professionals.

When merited, one award will be presented per year. The recipient will receive \$1,000 in cash and an award plaque.

The award will be presented during AEJMC's annual conference.

Nomination criteria:

1. The nominee must have been an AEJMC member for the past three years.
2. The nominee must have a sustained and significant record of public service to AEJMC; and must have a sustained and significant record of service to programs or activities that promote connections between the academy and JMC industries (either on nominee's home campus, or through other professional-based associations).
3. The nominee must have been a full-time classroom teacher (not an administrator) for at least the past 10 years and teach in an area of journalism/mass communication.
4. The nominee cannot have been previously recognized or honored by AEJMC for public service.
5. The nominee cannot have served on the AEJMC Board of Directors for the past four years.

Nominations, including self-nominations, should contain a two-page letter that describes the nominee's service to both areas of public service; two additional letters of support affirming the

nominee's service (one from each area); a 500-word statement from the nominee describing the nominee's views on how public service activities (in general or the nominee's particular service activities) complement the traditional teaching, research and service roles of higher education faculty; and full vita of the nominee.

Nominations should be received by 5 PM EST on March 1, 2026. Send nominations via email to Lillian Coleman at lillian@aejmc.org. For questions, contact Lillian Coleman at lillian@aejmc.org.