



Honorable Lourdes Leon Guerrero
Maga'hāga'
Governor of Guam

Honorable Joshua Tenorio
Sigundo Maga'lahi
Lieutenant Governor of Guam

Angie Taitague
Direktot
Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAHA Announces the Call for Nominations for the 2025 Maga'Haga Art Awards (formerly known as Governor's Art Awards)

(July 24, 2025, Hagåtña, Guam) The Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency (CAHA), in collaboration with the Office of the Governor, proudly announces the reopening of nominations for the prestigious 2025 Maga'Haga Art Awards, formerly known as the Governor's Art Awards. This notable program aims to celebrate the incredible talents and contributions of individuals and organizations that have significantly enriched the arts and cultural landscape of Guam.

This initiative is vital as the Maga'Haga Art Awards serve as a beacon of recognition, shining a light on the exceptional artistic achievements that shape Guam's vibrant culture. With the last awards ceremony held over two decades ago in May 2003, the CAHA Board is enthusiastic about reviving this important celebration. The goal is to not only honor those who have made lasting impacts through their artistry but also to inspire future generations, celebrate Guam's heritage, and cultivate a flourishing artistic community.

Nominations are currently being accepted across a variety of categories, each designed to recognize different facets of the arts. Categories include:

1. Youth Artist - Recognizes a talented youth who displays overall artistic excellence.
2. Literary Arts - Recognizes overall excellence in literary arts.
3. Visual Arts - Recognizes overall excellence in the visual arts, including media and graphic arts.
4. Performing Arts - Recognizes overall excellence in music, dance, theater and other presentations.
5. Heritage Arts - Recognizes overall excellence in heritage, folk and traditional arts.
6. Champion for the Arts (Individual) - Recognizes an individual who generously supports the arts and culture through sponsorship, educational

programming, or community effort.

7. Champion for the Arts (Group/Organization) - Recognizes a group or organization who generously supports the arts and culture through sponsorship, educational programming, or community effort.
8. Champion for the Arts (Corporate) - In recognition of outstanding corporate support of the arts within the community through funding and sponsorship of art projects which allows for educational enhancement of the arts.
9. Posthumous - Recognizes overall excellence of an individual who made a significant contribution to the arts and our island community.

Among the most prestigious accolades are the Special Recognition for Lifetime Achievement and the Lifetime Cultural Contribution Award, both of which are at the sole discretion of the Governor, recognizing those who have profoundly influenced Guam's cultural scene with their artistic endeavors.

Nominations can be submitted following specific guidelines that are available at the CAHA office located at DNA Building, Ste. 202, 238 Archbishop Flores Street in Hagåtña, or they can be downloaded from the CAHA website at www.guamcaha.org. The deadline for submitting completed nomination packets accompanied by supporting materials directly to the CAHA office, is set for 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 21, 2025. Late applications or submissions sent by mail or email will not be considered.

Governor Lourdes Leon Guerrero expressed her thoughts on the revival, stating, "In the revival of the Governor's Art Awards, we find not just an acknowledgment of talent, but a profound celebration of the human spirit—reminding us that through the arts, we unite, inspire, and elevate Guam to new heights."

Lt. Governor Joshua Tenorio echoed this sentiment, adding, "This initiative reignites the cultural vibrancy of Guam, honoring those whose creative endeavors pave the way for future generations."

Additionally, CAHA Acting Director Jackie Balbas remarked, "Celebrating the unsung heroes of our artistic landscape, the revival of the Governor's Art Awards is not merely a tribute—it's a resounding reminder that when passion meets recognition, culture flourishes and artistry thrives."

The Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency remains unwavering in its commitment to promoting and preserving Guam's rich cultural heritage through the support of the arts, humanities, and traditional practices.

For more information about the awards and the nomination process, please contact Jackie Balbas, CAHA Acting Director at (671) 300-7584/ (671) 456-53878 or via email at jacqueline.balbas@caha.guam.gov.

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