The Frank and Judy O'Bannon Heritage Enrichment Award 2015

Historic Southern Indiana (HSI) is a heritage-based regional outreach program of the University of Southern Indiana. It seeks to identify, preserve, enhance, and promote the historic, natural, and recreational resources of the region for the benefit of visitors and citizens.

Judy and the late Governor Frank O’Bannon embody the mission and goals of Historic Southern Indiana in their commitment to, and love of, the distinctive heritage of southern Indiana. Their belief in the identification, preservation and promotion of those things that make communities special is especially evident in their support of programs benefiting youth.

In their honor, Historic Southern Indiana will recognize persons who epitomize the values that the O’Bannons worked for all of their adult lives.

Criteria for the Award:
This will be awarded to an individual who has become an exemplary model of community education in such activities as community heritage, heritage/cultural tourism, historic preservation, and historical interpretation in the Historic Southern Indiana region. Supporting materials could include, for example, how the individual was able to obtain community support for projects, what sort of curriculum development or training materials were developed, and how preservation and interpretation projects benefited their intended audience. The recipient’s achievements will reflect the overall mission of HSI as well as the special interests of the O’Bannons.

Eligibility:
The award is open for people in paid positions as well as volunteers whose programs enrich the lives of young people age 18 or less. It is not limited to those who work in the schools. Nominees must reside in the Historic Southern Indiana region—the twenty-six counties of the southern part of the state. These extend from Knox, Daviess, Martin, Lawrence, Jackson, Ripley, Jennings and Dearborn counties southward to the Ohio River.

Schedule:
Nominations will be solicited in the spring. Interested persons may nominate themselves. A panel of judges will select the recipient by September 1. The award will be presented at the Annual Meeting of Historic Southern Indiana in the early fall.

Judges:
A representative panel of judges will be selected by the HSI Executive Committee.

Award:
A $1,000 cash prize, a plaque, recognition at the Annual Meeting of Historic Southern Indiana, an article highlighting the achievements of the recipient in the Historic Southern Indiana newsletter, and a news release featuring the recipient’s achievements.