



This year will mark the Arts Council of Anne Arundel County's 26th Annual Annie Award Celebration!

In 2000, the Arts Council of Anne Arundel County first publicly recognized six exceptional Annie Award winners for their lasting, significant, and inspiring contributions to an art form, an arts organization, and/or to the wider community of Anne Arundel County. Nominations are accepted from any member of the Anne Arundel County community.

On Wednesday, October 5, 2026, ACAAC will honor a member of the Anne Arundel County community in each of nine categories. The ceremony will be held on the main stage at Maryland Hall, with a reception to follow in the Bowen Theatre. The public is invited, and there is no cost to attend.

ACAAC Statement of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility:

The Arts Council of Anne Arundel County is committed to advancing and modeling equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility in all of our programs and services and those of our grantees. We are dedicated to embracing equity and non-discrimination regardless of race, religious creed, color, age, gender expression, sexual orientation, class, language, and/or ability.

2026 Annie Award Categories:

Arts Education

This nominee has demonstrated innovation and creativity in teaching – having achieved high levels of training, credentials, and peer recognition – and has had a positive impact on students' lives.

Arts Leadership

This is an award for an individual or organization that has made significant contributions to our county's arts community through guidance, mentorship, inclusivity, and innovation.

Arts Maverick

This nominee has provided a fresh, innovative approach to the arts, with a significant impact on the community.

Arts Patron

This nominee has consistently demonstrated significant support for the arts through advocacy, education, mentorship, and/or funding.

Historic Arts

This nominee has made noteworthy contributions to the understanding of cultural and historical resources in Maryland and specifically Anne Arundel County as evidenced through research, writing, and reviews.

Literary Arts

This nominee has produced a significant body of work and achieved recognition among fellow writers as well as the general public.

Performing Arts

This nominee has received positive reviews for performances at the regional, state, or national level and has – over their career – achieved a reputation for excellence in their work.

Visual Arts

This nominee has created a significant body of work displayed in public exhibitions, museums, galleries, and private collections and achieved excellence in artistry as evidenced by reviews and awards.

Lifetime Achievement in the Arts

This nominee has achieved local, regional, or national recognition and has made a significant impact in their field of expertise as well as the local community.

Nomination Process/Selection:

- Any member of the Anne Arundel community may submit up to three nominations, but each submission must be in a different category.
- Previous Annie Award winners are not eligible, **UNLESS:**
 - They are nominated in the category of Lifetime Achievement, AND
 - Five or more years have passed since receiving their Annie Award.
- The application period is open from June 15 - August 3, 2026.
- Applications are available online at ACAAC's Submittable page at: <https://artscouncilofannearundelcountynew.submittable.com/submit>
- We recommend that you create your account, gather supporting materials, and draft all narrative sections of the application in a Word document prior to beginning the application.
- Please add notifications@email.submittable.com to your safe email list to ensure receipt of all notifications about your nomination.
- Names and emails for at least three and up to five references must be provided along with letters of support.
- Additional materials (documents, photos, video, etc.) can be uploaded with the nomination.
- Scoring criteria will assess the personal accomplishments of each nominee with the goal of selecting Annie Award winners that reflect the rich diversity of the Anne Arundel County arts community.
- A blue-ribbon panel comprised of subject matter experts will review and evaluate all nominations and select the winners, with two exceptions. These categories will be selected by the Arts Council of Anne Arundel County Board of Directors:
 - Arts Maverick Award
 - Lifetime Achievement Award

Questions:

If you have any questions about the Annie Awards nomination process or the application, please contact April Nyman at april.nyman@acaac.org or 410-222-7949.