

MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

Aug. 26 - Labor Day, Sept. 6, 2021

March 2021

To: Secretaries of County Fairs
Area Agencies on Aging

From: Minnesota State Fair
Competition Department

Re: Minnesota's 2021 Outstanding Senior Citizen Award

Enclosed are materials for the County Fair Outstanding Senior Citizen competition, a joint effort of the Minnesota State Fair, the Minnesota State Fair Foundation and the Minnesota Federation of County Fairs.

Packet includes:

1. Nomination procedures
2. Instructions for County Fair Outstanding Senior Selection
3. Minnesota State Fair nomination forms
4. Outstanding Senior Citizen county winners form
5. Sample news release (for county fairs)
6. Seniors Day ideas (for county fairs)

The nomination process is explained in these materials. The forms are available online. To complete, type in the information and print the completed forms. You will not be able to save these forms once they are completed online. Please look them over as soon as possible, make copies if necessary, and designate a selection committee to handle the details of the competition.

County fair winners are automatically entered into the Minnesota State Fair competition, but most have a completed nomination form submitted.

Questions, call 651-288-4417 or email outstandingsr@mnstatefair.org.

Twelve Days of  Ending Labor Day

NOMINATION PROCEDURES

Eligibility Criteria

- The nominee must be a resident of Minnesota.
- The nominee's volunteer service must be accomplished **after reaching age 65**.
- Nominee must be **age 70 by June 1 of the current year**.
- Nominee must currently do a volunteer activity that is unpaid and demonstrates commitment to their local community.
- A previous county winner not chosen as the state winner is eligible. However, a current year's nomination form must be completed.
- You may only nominate one individual per nomination form. Couple nominations will be disqualified.

Instructions

Explain why you are nominating this person for the Outstanding Senior Citizen Award. It is helpful to give specific, detailed and precise examples to assist the judges in choosing the winners. Do not hesitate to interview the person you are nominating. Nomination does not need to be kept secret. You may also speak to people at the organizations where the individual volunteers. Political and religious organization involvement will only be considered when it benefits the community. All information will be held in confidence by judges. Information submitted is not returned unless a request is made.

Judges will look for:

- Diversity of accomplishments
- How this person has touched the lives of other people in the community
- Total scope of activities, including years of service and time commitment
- Variety of services performed and involvement in organizations
- Quantity of accomplishments and amount of service **after age 65**
- Quality of activities, especially innovative services
- Geographic area covered by their service
- Individuals are encouraged to submit up to three letters of recommendation that focus on the candidate's achievements. **No more than three letters will be used in the judging process.**

The nominations will be judged by three representatives from each of the following organizations: the Minnesota State Fair, the Minnesota State Fair Foundation and the Minnesota Federation of County Fairs.

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Instructions for County Fair Outstanding Senior Selection

Appoint a selection committee:

The county fair should appoint an Outstanding Senior Citizen Award selection committee/person to handle the selection procedures as soon as possible.

Distribute the materials in the packet:

As soon as your county's selection committee has been named, provide members with the appropriate materials in this packet.

Select winners and send winner names to the county fair:

At the end of a reasonable nomination period, the selection committee should meet and select your county's Outstanding Senior Citizen(s).

Certificates of recognition:

You may want to create a certificate to be presented to your county winners.

Entries must reach the Minnesota State Fair by Monday, Aug. 9, 2021:

The committee must attach the official county finalist form for the county winner and attach the nomination forms (one for each gender), and send them to the Minnesota State Fair by the above deadline. The selection committee is encouraged to select one male and one female winner from their county that will go on to compete at the state level.

Only **one male** and **one female** nominee from each county is eligible for this award.

Please remember to send both the male and female Minnesota State Fair Nomination Forms and county winners form.

The State Fair's Outstanding Senior Citizen Award ceremony will be held Sept. 2, 2021. Each of the county winners will be invited to sit on stage during the ceremony. A registration packet with gift items for their day at the fair will be given to each county winner in attendance.

This invitation will not go out until the **WEEK BEFORE THE MINNESOTA STATE FAIR**. The 2021 dates of the Minnesota State Fair are Aug. 26 through Sept. 6.

If you have any questions, please call 651-288-4417 or email outstandingsr@mnstatefair.org

MALE — 2021 Outstanding Senior Citizen Award Minnesota State Fair Nomination Form

*Sponsored by the Minnesota State Fair, the Minnesota State Fair Foundation
and the Minnesota Federation of County Fairs*

COUNTY NAME: _____

This form and information on this award program is located on our website at:
www.mnstatefair.org/competitions/awards-and-recognition/ .

List what the nominee (**age 70 by June 1 or older**) does for others in your organization or community after reaching the **age of 65**. Feel free to discuss your nomination with this person and collect needed volunteer activity information.

Send the information to the local county fair by county fair date: _____

Winners will be selected and recognized at the local county fair. They will then be entered into the State Outstanding Senior Citizen Award competition. Outstanding seniors will be recognized for their service at the award ceremony at the State Fairgrounds.

Male Nominee Name:	Date of Birth:	Nominated by:
Address:		Address:
Home Phone: _____		Home Phone: _____
Work Phone: _____		Work Phone: _____

How do you know the nominee? _____

What was the nominee's occupation before age 65? _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Complete this form and mail it to the nominated senior's county fair contact. Information available by contacting Tiffany Gustin of MN Federation of County Fairs at mfcf.tiffany@gmail.com

FEMALE — 2021 Outstanding Senior Citizen Award Minnesota State Fair Nomination Form

*Sponsored by the Minnesota State Fair, the Minnesota State Fair Foundation
and the Minnesota Federation of County Fairs*

COUNTY NAME: _____

This form and information on this award program is located on our website at:
www.mnstatefair.org/competitions/awards-and-recognition/.

List what the nominee (**age 70 by June 1 or older**) does for others in your organization or community after reaching the **age of 65**. Feel free to discuss your nomination with this person and collect needed volunteer activity information.

Send the information to the local county fair by county fair date: _____

Winners will be selected and recognized at the local county fair. They will then be entered into the State Outstanding Senior Citizen Award competition. Outstanding seniors will be recognized for their service at the award ceremony at the State Fairgrounds.

Female Nominee Name:	Date of Birth:	Nominated by:
Address:		Address:
Home Phone: _____		Home Phone: _____
Work Phone: _____		Work Phone: _____

How do you know the nominee? _____

What was the nominee's occupation before age 65? _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Complete this form and mail it to the nominated senior's county fair contact. Information available by contacting Tiffany Gustin of MN Federation of County Fairs at mfcf.tiffany@gmail.com

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(Please make a copy of these three forms — use one for the female nominee and one for the male nominee. Copy additional pages as needed.)

Name of Nominee _____

Volunteer Activities

List the volunteer activities and benefits to the community/organization:

Volunteer activity/organization: _____

Activity or responsibility: _____

Time commitment: _____

Benefit to the community: _____

Volunteer activity/organization: _____

Activity or responsibility: _____

Time commitment: _____

Benefit to the community: _____

Volunteer activity/organization: _____

Activity or responsibility: _____

Time commitment: _____

Benefit to the community: _____

Volunteer activity/organization: _____

Activity or responsibility: _____

Time commitment: _____

Benefit to the community: _____

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Name of Nominee _____

Volunteer activity/organization: _____

Activity or responsibility: _____

Time commitment: _____

Benefit to the community: _____

Community Memberships

Tell us about community organizations or committees she/he belongs to. Be sure to list any positions or offices held by the nominee within these organizations.

Organization	Responsibilities	Time Spent

Service Awards

List outstanding accomplishments, awards or honors she/he has received **after reaching age 65.**

Award	Year Received

