



# Parent Cooperative Preschools INTERNATIONAL

---

## AWARDS JUDGING CRITERIA

Each year, through its program of awards for outstanding service, PCPI recognizes individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the parent cooperative preschool movement. A nomination form for all awards is available on the PCPI website at [www.preschools.coop/forms](http://www.preschools.coop/forms). Nominee and sponsor must both be members of PCPI, except as noted. Nominations received after the published deadline may not be considered.

Assume that no one on the Awards Committee knows the nominee. Be enthusiastic, but brief; be flattering, but honest. Make each comment count toward creating a total picture of the nominee.

Successful nominees will be presented with their award certificate at the PCPI annual awards banquet. It is not necessary for the candidate to be present. The award can be delivered to the nominee's sponsor to be presented later at an appropriate local event.

### **STRONGER TOGETHER AWARD** (Formerly District Award)

This recognizes parents, board members, teachers, directors and administrators for their effective leadership, cooperative spirit and dedicated commitment to the well-being of parent cooperative preschools at the school, local, or council level.

### **CONTINUING SERVICE AWARD** (Formerly Continuing Service District Award)

The same criteria as above, with an additional five years of service after a Stronger Together Award (formerly District Award).

### **NATIONAL AWARD**

This honors activity that has had a favorable impact on parent cooperative preschools at more than the school, local, or council level. This may include, but not be limited to, serving on the PCPI board of directors, liaising with related national organizations, original research, writing or editorial work, legislative effort or any important contribution to the parent cooperative preschool movement.



### **SUSIE STONE OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AWARD**

This award recognizes teachers who demonstrate commitment and dedication to the philosophy of learning through play. Given in honor of Susie Stone, a vibrant and dynamic teacher of young children and advocate for the cooperative model, the award celebrates the importance of a strong connection between home and preschool, and the true value of hands-on play-based learning in early childhood. Nominees have given a minimum of ten years of service to a single preschool, and are actively involved in creating and maintaining a nurturing, inclusive environment for young children and their families.

### **ROBIN GARTHRIGHT BUNSTER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING**

One award is given each year, selected from the nominees for Stronger Together, Continuing Service, National, and Susie Stone Outstanding Educator Awards. By recognizing excellence in teaching, the award embodies the spirit of Robin Garthright Bunster, a former teacher, member of the PCPI board and champion of learning through play. Nominee is a teacher of children and/or adults, and an advocate for learning through play. Nomination must be supported by three separate letters of reference: one each from a board member at the nominee's school, an alumnus or alumna, and a person of the sponsor's choice. The award includes a \$500 honorarium.

### **CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

Certificates are for acknowledgement of those individuals or entities who have made a singular contribution to the parent cooperative preschool movement, e.g., a generous gift of funds, goods or services, a landlord's exceptional cooperation, a grandparent's gift of time or skill, recognition of a preschool's anniversary, or other special circumstances. Nominees need not be a member of PCPI.

### **HONORARY LIFE MEMBER**

PCPI's highest accolade, this award is reserved as a special recognition of exceptional contribution to, or unique involvement in, the parent cooperative preschool movement. It acknowledges much more than years of service. Nomination must be supported by three separate letters of reference from individuals who can speak to the nominee's longtime commitment to the cooperative movement.