



# The Star Awards

## PEARL ANNIVERSARY GALA

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CELEBRATING **30** YEARS OF EXCELLENCE  
IN THE INDUSTRY

# Nomination Guide

[www.mmhaonline.org/events](http://www.mmhaonline.org/events)

**Nomination Deadline:**

**May 15th**

Sponsored By:



# MMHA 2026 Star Awards

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## Schedule

Nominations Due: *May 15, 2026*

## Event Details

**Thursday, October 22, 2026**

**5:30pm-9:30pm**

**The Hall at Maryland Live**

**7002 Arundel Mills Circle**

**Hanover, MD 21076**

**\$199 nomination fee for each nomination**

All property judging will be conducted ON SITE  
(no video submissions) June - July

All people judging will be conducted via IN-  
PERSON only at the MMHA Office July-August

# MMHA 2026 Star Awards

## CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

### *Individual Nomination Categories*

#### Regional Property Manager of the Year

This award recognizes a multi-property Regional Property Manager or Portfolio Manager who bridges the gap between properties, owners, and corporate offices. Regional Property Managers nominated for this category should be nominated by their teams. Nominee's will have an in-person interview covering the following: management philosophy, human resource skills, vision, creativity, leadership, and integrity as well as a property score from one property that they manage.

**\*New This Year - This category will be interviewed in person\***

#### Property Manager of the Year

This award recognizes outstanding Property Managers that demonstrate leadership through the success of their properties. Property Managers nominated in this category demonstrate skills in leadership, marketing, budget management, and operations. Interview questions will focus on management skills & philosophy, industry knowledge, budget and asset administration, appearance, and attitude.

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### Assistant Property Manager of the Year

This award recognizes outstanding Assistant Managers who assist in the day to day operations on a property. Interview questions will focus on leadership philosophy, industry knowledge, attitude, problem solving, knowledge of staff roles, and creativity.

Any on-site professional whose primary responsibility is to assist the Manager with on-site leasing, accounting/bookkeeping, and/or management is eligible.

### Leasing Consultant of the Year

This award recognizes the on-site position that requires product knowledge, selling skills, tenacity, professionalism, patience, and more.

Leasing consultants will be mystery shopped using an independent mystery shopping service. Any leasing professional whose primary responsibility is on-site leasing is eligible.

\*Mystery Shop Service will be used → NO in person interview\*

### Service Team of the Year

Service Team of the Year awards are presented to those teams who exhibit exceptional teamwork, professional manners, and a systematic and orderly approach to maintenance.

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### Service Supervisor of the Year

This award recognizes individuals who demonstrate management skills, professionalism, and the highest standards of technical excellence. Interview questions will focus on leadership philosophy, knowledge of the trade, budget management, work flow organization, customer service philosophy, fair housing knowledge, and integrity. Individual must supervise one or more employees or subcontractors.

### Service Technician of the Year

This award recognizes individuals who contribute to a property's physical upkeep, performance, and appearance. Interview questions will focus on attitude, average turn periods/process, average service request turn-around, customer service skills, maintenance skills, and work ethic.

### Superstar of the Year

This award recognizes an individual at a company who goes above and beyond. Nomination will be submitted in an essay format.

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### Corporate Employee of the Year

Open to any Owner/Manager Corporate employee including but not limited to: Human Resource Professional, Administrative Professional, Marketing Professional, IT Professional, Accounting Professional and Training Professional. Candidate must provide support to the Management Company or owner and have more than 12 months experience. This nomination will be in essay format and should cover leadership, industry knowledge, accomplishments and professionalism.

### Best Community Team of the Year

This award recognizes a rental housing community and the community's team that maintains the highest level of excellence, talent, service, maintenance and overall operations. Interview will focus on team cohesion, overall staff presentation, knowledge of roles, and customer service philosophy.

### Rookie of the Year

Open to any employee in their position & at the company for 18 months or less. This nomination will be submitted in an Essay format by their direct supervisor. Essay should include how they have gone above and beyond in their role.

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### *Community Categories*

Categories will be broken into sub categories based on price point. Price points are set once all entries are received, but before scoring has started. Judging of properties will take place in person.

### Garden Community of the Year

This award recognizes a garden style community - A one, two, or three floor community built in a garden like setting in a suburban, rural, or urban location. The judges on-site tour will consider signage, building, grounds, landscaping, fair housing poster visibility, leasing center, apartment unit, common areas, amenities & maintenance shop.

### Elevator Community of the Year

This award recognizes an elevator style community with 4+ floors with elevator access. The judges on-site will consider signage, building, grounds, landscaping, fair housing poster visibility, leasing center, elevator area, apartment unit, common areas, amenities & maintenance shop.

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### Townhome Community of the Year

This award recognizes a townhome style community. The judges on-site tour will consider signage, building, grounds, landscaping, fair housing poster visibility, leasing center, townhome unit, common areas, amenities & maintenance shop.

### Active Adult Community of the Year

This award recognizes 55+ communities. The judges on-site will consider signage, building, grounds, landscaping, fair housing poster visibility, leasing center, apartment unit, common areas, amenities & maintenance shop.

### Workplace Housing (Affordable)

### Community of the Year

This award recognizes communities that are considered Affordable Housing. The judges on-site will consider signage, building, grounds, landscaping, fair housing poster visibility, leasing center, apartment unit, common areas, amenities & maintenance shop.

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### Spirit of Caring

(no nomination fee) - Is your property or company involved in community outreach? Tell us about it and MMHA will donate \$500 to the winning program! Entry to be submitted in Essay format.

Scan Here to Submit Nominations



### Questions

Contact our Senior Director of Membership and Events  
Lori Crook | [LCrook@mmhaonline.org](mailto:LCrook@mmhaonline.org) | 443-846-4237

# MMHA 2026 Star Awards

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### *Additional Awards*

(No nominations will be accepted for these awards)

#### Howard Cassin Associate of the Year

Is an award usually given to a person from an associate/vendor/supplier company that dedicates their time to MMHA and the MMHA Mission

#### MMHA Miki Wilson Shining Star

Is an award given to a person that works for a member company. This person is dedicated to the association and industry and goes above and beyond year after year to help improve our industry and association.

#### R. Bruce Campbell Advocacy Award

Is an award is given to a person that supports MMHA in our government affairs and legislative advocacy.

#### Associate Company of the Year

This award goes to an organization that supplies goods and/or services to the industry while being a true advocate for MMHA and supporting the association's mission.