

## PROGRAM DETAILS

**Eligibility:** All District 2 Parks and Recreation agencies (cities, counties and districts) and individual CPRS members are eligible to submit entries to the CPRS District 2 Awards Program. All programs and projects must have been completed in 2025.

**Judges' Decisions:** Awards will be considered for each category and division indicated on the application form. Awards will be given only if the judges' deem it appropriate and the awards entry application is complete. Judges' reserve the right to relocate an entry to a more appropriate category without notifying the nominee. An entry will be disqualified if the award program criteria are not met and/or the entry application is incomplete. The judges' decisions are final and judges' scoring information is not released.

**Application Notification:** All applicants will receive a notification email announcing the decision of the judging no later than February 12th. Entry materials will not be returned.

**CPRS District 2 Awards & Installation Banquet:** Recipients will receive recognition at the CPRS District 2 Awards & Installation Banquet is **Thursday, March 5, from 11:00am to 2:00pm. Rocklin Event Center, located at 2650 Sunset Blvd., Rocklin, CA 95677.** Attendance is highly recommended but not mandatory.

**Multiple Entries:** Agencies may submit more than one entry per category. Award entry fee applies to each award entries.

**Entry Deadline: 11:59pm on Tuesday, February 11, 2026.**

**Awards Committee Chair:** For information regarding the CPRS D2 Awards program, contact Eric Dexter, District 2 Vice President, [edexter@roseville.ca.us](mailto:edexter@roseville.ca.us)

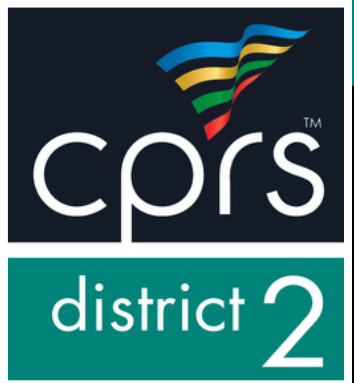
**Application Fee: \$25.00 per entry**

**Visit <https://www.cprsd2.org/awards-program> to submit today!**



**CPRS District 2**  
 Recognizing Excellence in Professional  
 Achievements, Programs & Parks

# 2026 AWARDS PROGRAM



**Deadline:**  
 February 11,  
 2026



# AWARD CATEGORIES

## J.R. Needy Professional

Dr. Jerome R. Needy, Ph.D., worked with many organizations including the YMCA, Boy Scouts, and several Parks and Recreation agencies, and finally retired from CSUS as the Dean of the Division of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation. He was also on multiple boards including CPRS, NRPA, and the American Institute of Park Executives. Today, the J.R. Needy Professional Award recognizes outstanding local accomplishments, achievements and contributions of professionals to their agency and their community involvement in promoting the Parks Make Life Better!® branding campaign.

### Mandatory Criteria:

1. Candidate must be a current CPRS District 2 Member.
2. Candidate must have at least three (3) years of experience in the field of parks, recreation, and/or human services in California.

### Entry Criteria:

**Candidates must meet at least three (3) of the following criteria:**

1. Committee work over a period of two (2) or more years with a CPRS district, section, state, or national organization for the parks, recreation, and/or human services profession.
2. Research that promotes the parks and recreation profession.
3. Author of at least two (2) articles related to the parks and recreation profession published by a local, state, or national magazine. Include copies of the article or bibliography.
4. Outstanding leadership is recognized through an award from a service club, volunteer group, public organization, CPRS district, section or state committee.
5. Presenter of three (3) or more lectures/presentations promoting parks, recreation and/or human services profession.
6. Participated as a CPRS board member of a district or section. List office(s) held and accomplishments achieved during term.
7. Participated as a State CPRS board member. List office(s) held and accomplishments achieved during term.



## Champion of the Community

The Champion of the Community Award is awarded for outstanding public service in the support of the Parks Make Life Better!® branding campaign. Recipients are chosen based upon their significant effort to influence and improve the quality of their community through parks, recreation, and community service. This award is intended for individuals who are not employed in the parks and recreation profession.

### Entry Criteria:

- Candidates must meet at least one (1) of the following criteria:
1. Proven record of outstanding volunteer service to the delivery of parks and recreation services or programs in their community.
  2. Active support of CPRS or National Professional groups, furthering the mission of parks and recreation.
  3. Contributed to the development of new equipment, apparatus, facilities or programs.

# AWARD CATEGORIES

## Agency Showcase Marketing - Digital and Print

### Facility Design & Park Planning

The Facility Design & Park Planning Award recognizes excellence in the planning and design of facilities and parks used primarily to promote participation in recreational experiences, strengthens facilities for self-directed and organized recreation and encourages the community to see the agency as essential.

#### Entry Criteria:

1. Describe the project and its purpose, the degree of community involvement and the completion date.
2. Describe how the project met a need or created new/increased value for the community; or advanced the provision of parks and recreation services in the community.
3. Describe how the project included informing, engaging & communicating with the community & if non-traditional fiscal/community resources (grants, sponsors) were used.
4. Describe how the project supported the Parks Make Life Better!® campaign messages.

The Agency Showcase Marketing Award recognizes excellence in digital media or print materials that encourages participation in recreational activities, contributes to the public's increased awareness of parks and recreation services, encourages community involvement and raises the status of parks and recreation as an essential community service.

#### Entry Criteria:

1. Describe the marketing challenge the materials addressed.
2. Describe how the entry resulted in noticeable positive change, increased participation and advanced the provision of parks and recreation services in the community.
3. Describe how the entry utilizes creative vision, artistic aptitude and superiority of graphic or communication elements.
4. Describe how the entry supported the Parks Make Life Better!® campaign messages.

### Recreation & Community Program

The Recreation and Community Program Award recognizes excellence in recreation and community services programs that encourage participation in recreational activities, moves the agency towards a stronger position within the community and builds loyalty for parks and recreation services.

#### Entry Criteria:

1. Describe the program or event and the community need or challenge it addressed.
2. Describe the innovative features of the program or event including planning efforts, community outreach, and fiscal strategies to fund the program or event.
3. Describe at least two (2) measurable outcomes and how they were measured.
4. Describe how the program or event supported the Parks Make Life Better!® campaign messages.

