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## AOTF Awards and Honors

May 2018 rev

Each year, AOTF bestows awards and honors to individuals, agencies, businesses and/or other organizations that contribute time, energy, and support the fulfillment of the mission, goals, and objectives of the Foundation. The awards are presented at the AOTA/AOTF Awards Ceremony at the Annual Conference each year.

Awards and Honors under the purview of the Awards and Recognition Committee include:

1. **Fred Sammons Volunteer Recognition Award** (Volunteer/Service Award) – recognizes volunteers who have demonstrated generous, selfless service to AOTF and the advancement of occupational science through achievements, accomplishments or service. The award is given in honor of Fred Sammons, whose career-long commitment to volunteerism helped support and advance the mission of AOTF. Includes honorarium to cover travel, hotel, and registration costs for the AOTA Annual Conference. Under the purview of the AOTF Board of Trustees and the AOTF Awards and Recognition Committee.
2. **Mid-Career Research Award** (Research Award) – recognizes or supports individuals who have contributed to advancing knowledge in the field of occupational therapy. Includes \$5,000 honorarium.
3. **A. Jean Ayres Award** (Research Award) – recognizes individuals who are committed to the research-related development or testing of theory in occupational therapy with priority given to work in the area of sensory processing. The award is given in honor of A. Jean Ayres, PhD, OTR, whose concentration on developing theory in support of practice was of great significance to the profession of occupational therapy. Includes \$500 honorarium.
4. **Virginia Scardina Award of Excellence** (Research Award) – provides an award and honorarium (\$1,000) for an occupational therapy clinician who demonstrates a commitment to evidence-based practice through participation in research that advances theory in the area of brain-behavior relationships and/or sensory processing disorders. The award is given in honor of Virginia Scardina whose application of theory to practice was of great significance to the profession of occupational therapy.
5. **Certificate of Appreciation** (Leadership/Service Award) – recognizes the outstanding service of those external to the Foundation who have contributed significantly to the fulfillment of the Foundation's mission, goals, and objectives.
6. **Meritorious Service Award** (Leadership/Service Award) – recognizes retiring and incumbent members of the AOTF Board of Trustees who have made sustained and exemplary contributions in support of the Foundation's mission.
7. **Leadership Service Commendation** (Leadership/Service Award) – recognizes the outstanding service of retiring members of the AOTF Board of Trustees, life members, or members of the Foundation's committees or councils who contributed their time, energies, and support to the fulfillment of the Foundation's mission, goals, and objectives.

### **Additional AOTF Awards and Honors:**

1. **AOTA-AOTF Presidents' Commendation Award in Honor of Wilma L. West**  
(Leadership/Service Award) – given in conjunction with AOTA, this award honors a respected leader of the profession who has made sustained contributions to occupational therapy over a lifetime of service. Under the purview of the AOTF Chair and AOTA President.
2. **The Academy of Research** (Research Award) – recognizes individuals who have made exemplary and distinguished contributions toward the science of occupational therapy. Under the purview of the Academy of Research.
3. **Mary J. Bridle First Research Award** (Research Award) – sponsored by Pi Theta Epsilon, this award fosters scholarship and first research efforts within the occupational therapy community. Under the purview of the Pi Theta Epsilon Board of Directors.