Grand Master's Award Program - 2019

The Grand Master's Award Program for 2019 is based upon a lodge earning points for different activities. The maximum point totals can vary from lodge to lodge based on the number of members and widows it has. The period for consideration shall be August 1, 2018 through July 31, 2019. There is only one mandatory requirement. Additional information and guidelines appear after the form.

Points earned	Max. Points	Action or Activity
Required		Required Program: Present the program on Proficiency and allow time for discussion.
	10	Ritual: Three points for each new lecture given by an officer from memory. Two points for each new lecture given by a member from memory. One point for each new charge given by an officer or member from memory (Max 10 pts.).
	10	Connections : The Lodge will have one new program intended solely to strengthen the connections between the Brethren of the Lodge.
	15	Roadmap for Improvement: Lodge will identify one to three goals for improvement, develop a plan to meet those goals, execute that plan and achieve it to the satisfaction of the Master, LEO, DEO, and DDGM. (5 pt. per successfully completed goal, 15 max possible.)
	10	Current Courses: The current Master and Wardens will have completed the Code, Officer's Manual, and Ancient Charges Courses, either online or on paper, within the last three years or 8/1/16-7/31/19.
	10	Program Exchange: The LEO will present an original program at another Lodge where he is not serving as Education Officer, done at either a stated or a special meeting called for this purpose. The LEO should be accompanied by at least one other Brother from his Lodge.
	20	Visible and Necessary: The Lodge will host or participate in at least one new event or project where Masons can live their values outside of Lodge and connect with their community (10 pt. per event/project, 20 max. possible).
	5	Submission of Best Practice: Using the Roadmap for Improvement and/or 'Supporting our Membership-5 Guiding Principles' as their guide, the Lodge will share at least one original program, practice, or materials they utilized to be effective in addressing a need in their Lodge or Community.
	10	Enlighten and Empower: The incoming Master will attend the Past Master's Convocation and the Lodge Education Officer will attend the LEO Workshop for this Masonic Year (5 points per officer).
	10	Education Sessions: Officers attend District-wide educational sessions such as Typewritten Ritual, Warden's and Deacon's Training, Presumptive Master's Training, More Light Night, Masonic Volunteer Training, Camp Masonry, Masonic Traveling Road Show, etc. (1 pt. per officer per session, 10 max possible)
	100	Total Points Earned by Lodge
	100	Maximum Possible (Lodge must earn 80 points to be considered for this award)

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Submitted by:			Lodge Office:	
Approved:			District Deputy Grand Master	

	Comments on Grand Master's Award Program 2019			
For 2019, there will not be a separate Grand Master's Education Award as the pursuit of Quality in Lodge Operations, Leadership and Membership Development, Educational Programs, Fraternal and Community Connections and the Lodge Experience are not separate; but integral and integrated parts of the Modern Lodge.				
Connections	This must be a program never before done by the Lodge. This can take the form of a Hobby Night, Table Lodge, Masonic Reunion Night, a Day of Service to the Lodge, a Brother-to- Brother calling program, etc. It can take many forms and does not need to be expensive or expansive; it is an initiative or program with an intentional focus on strengthening the connections between the Brethren.			
Roadmap for Improvement	The Lodge should set goals according to their priorities. For some Lodges, going from a 3 to a 4 in Ritual is more important than going from a 1 to a 2 in Visitation or a 2 to a 3 in Non-Masonic Charity. The intent of this requirement is not to have a Lodge just check something off of a list; but to discuss their Lodge identity and priorities, then develop and execute a plan so that the Lodge's actions better reflect their values.			
Program Exchange	It is preferable that the LEO and Brethren from the visited Lodge would then reciprocate at the visiting LEO's Lodge, but that is not necessary to meet this requirement.			
Visible and Necessary	This must be an event or project never before conducted by the Lodge. This can be hosting an information booth at a Farmer's Market or library, an Open House, helping a Habitat for Humanity build, adopting a special-needs classroom and fulfilling their wish-list, hosting an end- of-year dinner for a local sports team, handing out pencils to students on the first day of school, a traditional More Light Night, helping local veterans, participating in a local parade or festival, a Day of Service to the Community, raising money or supplies for those distressed, supporting a youth group or Grand Lodge Charity, etc. It does not need to be expensive or expansive; it is an event or project where the Brethren work together to put their values into action, live their values outside of the Lodge and connect with their communities.			
Submission of Best Practice	Areas could include Membership Development, Candidate Counseling, Fundraising, Ritual Instruction, Lodge Management, Officer Training and Development. Financial Accountability, Member Retention, Removing the Obstacles for Success, or putting Friendship First. Submissions should include the need that was identified, what the Lodge did to address that need, and what the results were with the intention of creating a 'How-To' document for other Lodges to consider. These should be submitted to the District Education Officer for initial evaluation who then forward them to the Grand Lodge Education Committee for further evaluation and possible inclusion.			
Education Session	Officers can attend sessions in other Districts.			