

HARPER/WORNOM COMMITTEE

Updated January 2020

Committee Description and Responsibilities

The major concern of this Committee is to promote the values of inter-faith and ecumenical collegiality and religious education in the public arena through oversight of the Harper Award and the Wornom Innovation Grant.

The Committee provides oversight of these two awards by

- Preparing publicity about Awards and Projects for press releases, the website, and Annual Meeting;
- Reviewing, assessing, and revising working guidelines for the nominating process, grant proposal procedures and evaluation, etc., as needed and in concert with REA by-laws;
- Collaborating to identify potential candidates, e.g., generating names and reviewing nominations from REA members;
- Communicating with Award recipients and Project directors, in consultation with the Executive Secretary, to prepare announcements, make travel arrangements, and respond to any additional needs for the exchange of information;
- Hosting awardees at the Annual Meeting and arrange program for making the Awards, in consultation with Program Chair;
- Monitoring the progress of Projects, including receiving periodic reports and final assessments;
- Serving as liaisons with past awardees to encourage their work in religious education and honor our recognition of them with these awards.

The Harper/Wornom Committee is made up of the Chair and three members, all elected by the REA membership for a four-year term. Additional others may be invited by the chairperson to serve during that chairperson's term such that the work of the committee can be accomplished thoroughly and efficiently. Each member of the Committee will serve as Chair during their fourth year on the Committee; the Chair serves on the REA Board of Directors. The Committee will meet in person or virtually as needs arise but at least once each year.

Chair's Responsibilities and Requirements

- Conduct Committee meetings and oversee the fulfillment of the Committee's responsibilities.
- Present Committee's recommendations to the Board for Harper Awards and the Wornom Grant.
- Meet these expectations of all REA Board members:
 - Maintain current REA membership.
 - Attend Board meetings:

- the spring Board meeting in February or March, lasting from Thursday dinner through Sunday noon. Board members are reimbursed for expenses to attend the spring meeting;
 - the Board meetings before and after the Annual meeting, on Thursday evening and Sunday afternoon. Board members pay their own expenses.
 - the REA Annual Business Meeting;
 - the Advisory Council meeting, held Sunday noon immediately after the Annual Meeting.
- o Attend REA annual meeting and assist with moderating sessions, hosting speakers, interpreting Board actions to members, taking notes, and similar activities.
 - o Submit annual reports to the Board on the activity of the Committee.
 - o Serve on the Nominating Committee during the final year of one's term.
 - o Assist in articulating and communicating REA's identity and vision for a broad audience.