

**Information
for the selection of candidates
for the
International Foundation
for Gender Education's**

'BOARD OF DIRECTORS'

==

**'VIRGINIA PRINCE
LIFETIME CONTRIBUTION
AWARD'**

==

'TRINITY AWARD'

**I.F.G.E. Nominations & Awards Committee
(Ellen Summers, Chairperson)
c/o I.F.G.E.
P.O. Box 367
Wayland, MA 01778
(617) 894-8340**

CONSIDERATIONS

We are building I.F.G.E. into a strong organization that is of actual and effective service to the Crossdressing/Transsexual (CD/TS) (Our) Community, and those persons affected by Our Community.

We are using I.F.G.E. as a means to build a strong, effective, respected, and unified community.

The more people that are interested in and actively involved in I.F.G.E., the better I.F.G.E. (and thereby Our Community) will be.

I.F.G.E. has four separate divisions working cooperatively together. These four divisions are:

(1) Operations/Publications: This division includes I.F.G.E.'s employees. These employees are hired by and work for the Board of Directors.

(2) Board of Directors: This is the executive division of I.F.G.E., a cadre of officers elected to serve Our Community.

(3) Congress of Representatives: The Congress represents the individual organizations and services, and their respective memberships. The Congress represents Our Community.

(4) I.F.G.E. Academy: This division consists of a large cadre of experienced and respected members of the CD/TS Community. Their primary responsibility is to assist in the selection of the candidates for the Board of Directors, and make the final selections of the recipients of the 'VP' and 'Trinity' awards. The Academy is Our Community's validating body.

The cooperative effort between these four divisions will truly make the Board of Directors the best of Our Community, elected by Our Community, to serve Our Community. It will also make I.F.G.E.'s awards Our Community's awards.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Annual: Unlimited candidates, reduced to 14 candidates by the I.F.G.E. Academy. Seven elected to serve three years, and seven to serve as alternates for one year.

The Board of Directors is the executive branch of I.F.G.E., and is responsible for overseeing the affairs of I.F.G.E. The Board is also responsible for establishing policy, and providing for the overall operation and management of the corporation.

Members of the Board also serve as the chairpersons and co-chairpersons of I.F.G.E.'s action committees ('Educational Resources', 'Publications', 'Finance & Fund Raising', 'Marketing', 'Nominations & Awards', 'Programs & Convention', and 'Congress of Representatives').

The members of the Board serve without compensation.

The Board of Directors is an active body of officers and leaders elected to serve Our Community as a whole without bias. Therefore, any candidate for the Board must be willing to serve without bias!!

Besides the "without bias" criterion, another important consideration for candidates is the willingness and ability to travel. The Board of Directors' annual meeting is held during the 'Coming Together' Convention, and all members are expected to attend. This is especially important for those who are involved in the action committees. Besides the annual meeting, the Board of Directors Executive Committee meets a minimum of three times a year, and other members of the Board are invited (but not required) to attend.

Candidates need not be Tapestry subscribers, or IFGE Supporting members or Benefactor members.

Remember: Quality people with a willingness to serve without bias, and with an ability to travel to the annual meeting.

==-----==

VIRGINIA PRINCE **LIFETIME CONTRIBUTION AWARD'**

Annual: Unlimited candidates. One recipient, selected by the I.F.G.E. Academy.

The 'Virginia Prince Lifetime Contribution Award' is Our Community's highest award. The recipients have their name placed on a permanent wall plaque, receive a personal wall plaque, and receive a beautiful 10" satin steel statuette of I.F.G.E.'s 'Hands & Rose' logo, all of which are presented during formal ceremonies at the annual 'Coming Together' Convention.

In addition to the award, a personal video tape of the recipient and documentation of the recipient's contributions will be placed on permanent deposit in the I.F.G.E. Archives.

The 'VP Award' is to honor the one member of Our Community who has given the greatest lifetime contribution to Our Community. It is to honor our leaders, founders, and pioneers.... the ones who fought the battles, led the troops, and provided the effort as well as the inspiration over a period of years. It is to honor our sisters and brothers who created Our Community's history.

The 'VP Award' is given to one person each year. That person must be a member of Our Community. She or he must have paid her/his dues, which means active service over a period of years (preferably ten or more). The award is not based on a single contribution. Rather, it is based on a series of contributions, both great and small, over a long period of time. It is also based on the historical importance of that person's contribution.

Since the recipients of the 'VP Award' are individuals who have had an important historical impact on the development of Our Community, this award is an invaluable way to insure that their contributions will never be forgotten.

==-----==

'TRINITY AWARD'

Annual: Unlimited candidates. Six recipients, selected by the I.F.G.E. Academy.

The 'Trinity Award' is Our Community's second highest award, second only to the 'Virginia Prince Lifetime Contribution Award'. The recipients receive a beautiful 10" satin steel statuette of I.F.G.E.'s 'Hands & Rose' logo, which is presented during formal ceremonies at the annual 'Coming Together' Convention.

The 'Trinity' is to honor Our Community's heroes and heroines. It is also to acknowledge extraordinary achievements, contributions, and acts of love and courage -- with an emphasis on love and courage.

Certainly, many outstanding candidates for the award will be well known members of Our Community. However, we ask the persons making nominations to seek out little known or unacknowledged individuals and groups.... the people out there in the trenches fighting to make other people's lives better.

Remember, while the 'VP' Award is designed to acknowledge the greatest lifetime contribution, the 'Trinity' is not designed to acknowledge the second greatest contribution. It is designed to honor our heroes and heroines, and acknowledge extraordinary contributions and acts of love and courage. The 'Trinity' is a "thank you" award, and not an award for being the biggest or the best, or the most popular. Think..., "Who do we, as a community, want to acknowledge, and say 'thank you' to?"

Don't restrict your candidates to members of Our Community. Recipients of the 'Trinity' can be anyone from anywhere. Our community spans the globe, includes a vast spectrum of interests and needs, and includes individuals who are also members of other communities. The recipients of the award can be members or non-members of the CD/TS Community. They can be medical or mental health professionals. They can be organizations or services. They can be anyone.

Remember, the 'VP Award' is for our leaders. The 'Trinity' is for our heroes and heroines.

Let us use the 'Trinity' as a tool to highlight little known or unacknowledged achievements, and acts of love and courage. Let us use it as a tool to heal our community's wounds. Let us use it as a tool to build bridges. Let us use it wisely.

==--==

THE SELECTION PROCESS

for the I.F.G.E Board of Directors, the 'Virginia Prince Award', and the 'Trinity' Awards

The process of selecting the nominees for the I.F.G.E. Board of Directors, and the recipients of both the 'Virginia Prince Lifetime Contribution Award' and the 'Trinity Award' is coordinated by I.F.G.E.'s Nominations & Awards (N&A) Committee. The process is as follows:

(1) Seven months prior to the annual 'Coming Together' Convention, the Nominations & Awards Committee composes nomination ballots for the I.F.G.E. Board of Directors, the 'VP Award', and the 'Trinities'. The N&A Committee then distributes those ballots to members of the I.F.G.E. Congress of Representatives.

(2) The Representatives, through their respective organizations, research their regions for worthy candidates, then return their nominations to the N&A Committee.

(3) Five months prior to the Convention, the N&A Committee composes ballots listing the candidates for the Board and the awards, and the reasons for their nomination, then distributes those ballots to the I.F.G.E. Academy.

(4) The Academy selects the final twelve candidates for the Board of Directors, the recipient of the 'VP Award', and the six recipients of the 'Trinity Awards'. The Academy then returns the ballots to the N&A Committee.

(5) Three months prior to the Convention, the N&A Committee: (a) Composes a final election ballot for the Board of Directors and distributes that ballot to the voting membership. (b) Notifies the recipients of the awards of their selection.

(6) One month prior to the Convention the Board of Directors ballots are counted, and the candidates notified.

(7) During the annual 'Coming Together' Convention, the newly elected members of the Board of Directors are introduced, and the recipients of the 'VP' and 'Trinity' awards receive their awards.

- 30 -

*Compiled for the I.F.G.E. Nominations & Awards Committee by:
Merissa Sherrill Lynn, Executive Director, I.F.G.E.*

< page 7 >