

The 2011 Paul A. Stellhorn New Jersey History Award

The Stellhorn Award recognizes excellence in undergraduate writing about New Jersey history. It commemorates the career of an outstanding and much-loved historian of New Jersey, the late Paul A. Stellhorn.

In 2011, there will be up to three awards, including first and second runners-up. Each will consist of a framed certificate and a cash award. The sponsors will present the awards at the New Jersey Historical Commission's annual history conference in November 2011.

Note that this year undergraduate papers from colleges and universities in Delaware, New York, and Pennsylvania are also eligible for the award.

Submission Criteria

Papers may be about any subject in New Jersey's history.

Papers must be nominated by the professors for whose courses students wrote them. Students may not nominate their own papers.

Papers must have been written by undergraduate students attending colleges or universities in New Jersey, Delaware, New York, or Pennsylvania during calendar 2009, 2010, or 2011.

Papers by graduate students are not eligible unless a student submitted an undergraduate paper about New Jersey history during 2009, 2010, or 2011.

Email nominating letters and papers by June 30, 2011, to acrelus@optonline.net, or surface-mail nominating letters and four (4) copies of each paper to Richard Waldron, 150 Flock Road, Hamilton, NJ 08619; 609.468.3824.

Evaluation Criteria

A paper submitted for the Stellhorn Award will be evaluated on the basis of its narrative strength, the thoroughness of its author's research (mastery of sources and the standard forms of historical citation), and analysis of the paper's subject, including its historical context. A nominated paper should, therefore, tell a good story, explain how its subject changed over time, and utilize a broad array of relevant primary and secondary sources. Evaluators are historians the sponsors have chosen for the breadth and depth of their knowledge of New Jersey and American history.

Sponsors

The Stellhorn Award's sponsors are the New Jersey Historical Commission, New Jersey Department of State; the New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance; the New Jersey Council for History Education; Special Collections and University Archives, Rutgers University Libraries; and the New Jersey Caucus, Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference.