

FBA Awards Application Update - Tom Bishop Award

Updated July 2025

Thank you for your interest in completing the application process for the Tom Bishop Award for the Florida Bandmasters Association.

Please read these application instructions including the criteria for awards carefully, and contact the Awards Committee with questions.

FBA Awards Committee
awards@fba.flmusiced.org

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Tom Bishop Award

The intent of this award is to recognize a FBA member who has gone into a band program and turned the program around, making a huge positive difference in a relatively short period of time in the position of band director.

Criteria

- FBA Member and currently a band director in the state of Florida
- The nominee is teaching at the same school the year they are nominated.
- Attends FBA District and State meetings (July and January) on a regular basis
- Dramatic improvement in Concert and Marching MPA ratings from previous year(s)
- Participation and good results at the District S/E MPA
- Band program has grown in numbers

Selection Procedure

- Each FBA District may nominate one person (secret ballot, 75% positive vote of those present at the August or October FBA district meeting).
- An application must be completed by the nominee (due to the FBA Awards Committee Chair by Nov 1).
- The nominee must provide three letters of recommendation (School Principal, Recent Marching or Concert Band MPA Adjudicator of the nominee's band program, and one other FBA member due to the Award Committee Chair by Nov 1) and a complete application (see instructions below).
- The Awards Committee will select the award recipients based on the application.
- No limit on the number of recipients

Application Instructions

Complete application process must be followed to be considered for award:

1. Create a Google Drive folder titled with your name and award name using the following naming convention: *First Last - Tom Bishop Award 2025-2026*

2. Share this Google Drive folder with the FBA Awards Committee email address via Google Drive (please do not email the share link; share the folder from your Google Drive by clicking the “Share” button in Google Drive, please make sure the folder is open for viewing “anyone with the link”): awards@fba.flmusicied.org
3. Inside of your shared Google Drive folder, you should include four separate files saved as PDFs:
 - a. Application (final page of this document), which has been printed, completed/signed, and scanned. Please save this file using the following naming convention: *Tom Bishop Application - First Last*.
 - b. Three separate letters of recommendation, please see selection procedure for details on the requirements for these letters. Please save and upload these files using the following naming convention: *Recommendation Letter - Type of Recommendation Letter*.
 - c. FSMA Report detailing your MPA results for the past five years (for any schools you taught those years). You can access this information here: https://flmusicied.org/mpaonline/publicreports/FSMA_MPAReport.aspx - download each as an individual PDF to upload to your folder.
4. All materials must be shared via Google Drive with the FBA Awards email address above by November 1 at 11:59pm.

Florida Bandmasters Association Tom Bishop Award Application

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Please complete the following application form, then follow the instructions listed above to submit your completed application.

Your complete application with all required materials must be uploaded to Google Drive and shared to the FBA Awards email address by November 1 at 11:59pm.

Nominee Name and District # _____

Email Address _____

Home Phone _____

School Name _____

School Address _____

School Phone _____

Number of Years Teaching Completed _____

Number of Years as FBA Member _____

In addition to this application, you must provide 3 letters of recommendation (see above) plus the [FSMA Report](#) for your school (or the schools you taught at) for the past five years.

Please list pertinent information about your service to the profession, or any other information that may be helpful to the Awards Committee for justifying your nomination for this award.

This should be typed and may be added to your Google Drive folder as a separate file.

Consider including offices held, committees, participation in district initiatives or trainings, etc.

Nominee Signature _____ Date

District Chair Signature* _____ Date

**Please initial next to each FBA District meeting attended by this applicant for the 2024-2025 school year:*

_____ Meeting 1 _____ Meeting 2 _____ Meeting 3 _____ Meeting 4