

MICHIGAN TAXIDERMIST ASSOCIATION AWARDS LIST

BEST OF SHOW	Must have a blue ribbon to win. Will be chosen by the four respective judges. Winner will receive a trophy and a \$500 cash award.
BREAKTHROUGH AWARD	Must win Best of Show. A plaque is presented along with a \$100 cash OR gift certificate award.
PEOPLE'S CHOICE MASTERS/MASTERS OF MASTERS	Chosen by the public as the best mount of their choice. Only two votes per family membership. Award comes with a trophy and a \$200 cash award. Any mount entered in Masters/Masters of Masters is eligible.
PEOPLE'S CHOICE PROFESSIONAL	Chosen by the public as the best mount of their choice. Only two votes per family membership. Award comes with a trophy and a \$100 cash award. Any mount entered in Professional is eligible.
PEOPLE'S CHOICE NOVICE	Chosen by the public as the best mount of their choice. Only two votes per family membership. Award comes with a trophy and a \$50 cash award. Any mount entered in Novice is eligible.
McKENZIE TAXIDERMIST CHOICE -BEST WHITETAIL AWARD	This award goes to the best whitetail shoulder or pedestal mount to be decided by popular vote of membership (any registered competitor)
McKENZIE TAXIDERMIST CHOICE –BEST FISH AWARD	This award goes to the best fish mount, reproduction or skin mount to be decided by popular vote of membership (any registered competitor)
McKENZIE TAXIDERMIST CHOICE –BEST BIRD AWARD	This award goes to the best bird or combination mount, waterfowl or upland to be decided by popular vote of membership (any registered competitor)
McKENZIE TAXIDERMIST CHOICE –BEST LIFE-SIZE MAMMAL AWARD	This award goes to the best life-size mammal, small or large to be decided by popular vote of membership (any registered competitor)
THE HORIZON AWARD	Chosen by the respective judges for the novice or youth divisions as the best youth mount (ages 18 and under). The award comes with a trophy. This award can only be awarded to a youth participant once in their lifetime.
THE KEN KLEINERT AWARD	Chosen by the respective judges for the novice or youth division as the most artistic youth mount (ages 18 and under). The award comes with a trophy.
THE WASCO AWARD	Chosen by the four respective judges. The guidelines are as follows: exhibition of taxidermy, creativity and artistic merit. It does not matter which company's supplies, paints, or manikins are used in the piece. This award comes with a crystal type trophy and a \$100 gift certificate.
YOUTH DIVISION AWARDS	Chosen by the respective Novice division judges as the best mount in that age group. Any mount is eligible. Award comes with a trophy (sponsored by Modern Fur Dressing)
PRESIDENT'S ANIMATION AWARD	Chosen only by the President and must portray some type of movement within the mount. Any mount entered is eligible. This award comes with a trophy/plaque.
DUCKS UNLIMITED AWARD	Chosen by the respective Bird Judge as the best waterfowl in the show. Mount must have a blue ribbon in Professional or 2 nd or higher in Masters to qualify at Judge's discretion. Award comes with either a trophy, plaque or print.
PHEASANTS FOREVER AWARD	Chosen by the respective Bird Judge as the best pheasant in the show. Mount must have a blue ribbon in Professional or 2 nd or higher in Masters to qualify at Judge's discretion. Award comes with a trophy.

TURKEY FEDERATION AWARD	Chosen by the respective Bird Judge as the best turkey in the show. Mount must have a blue ribbon in Professional or 2 nd or higher in Masters to qualify at Judge's discretion. Award comes with a trophy.
WHITETAIL AWARD	Chosen by the representative of the award sponsor for the most natural depiction of the whitetail species in the show. This may include both whitetail life-size and shoulder mounts.
MICHIGAN TRAPPER'S ASSOCIATION AWARD	Chosen by a representative of the Michigan Trapper's Association for the best fur bearing mount in their natural habitat.
COMMEMORATIVE BUCKS OF MICHIGAN	Chosen by a representative from CBM as the best portrayal of a native Michigan species of Elk, Bear, Turkey or Whitetail deer that represents the goals of the CBM.
DALE CORNETET AWARD	Awarded to a fish scoring 95 or higher in the Masters or Masters of Masters Division. This award comes with a trophy.
THE LIFETONE AWARD	Awarded to the highest scoring fish in the competition which was painted with Lifetone paints. Competitor must also obtain a blue ribbon to win. This award comes with a trophy. Any fish entered in competition using this paint is eligible.
THE POLYTRANSPAR AWARD	Awarded to the highest scoring fish in the competition which was painted with Polytranspar paint. Competitor must also obtain a blue ribbon to win. This award comes with a \$50 gift certificate and plaque. Any fish entered in competition using this paint is eligible.
THE VANDYKE AWARD	Chosen by the judges as the most artistic mount in the Masters or Professional Divisions. The mount must have a blue ribbon to be eligible and show some type of artistic merit. This award comes with a plaque.
THE MICHIGAN TAXIDERMIST ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD	The Michigan Taxidermist Association Scholarship Award will be voted on by the Novice judges. This award comes with a trophy and a \$300 cash award to be paid to the instructor of the winner's choice. The instructor must be a MTA member and will be paid the cash upon completion of the class. Class must be used within one calendar year or money will be transferred to the next year.
BEST ALL AROUND	Masters and Masters of Masters divisions only and consists of four categories. They shall be Game Head, Mammal, Fish and Bird. The winner must have attained a second place on each of the four mounts to be eligible. A place lower on any one mount will eliminate any chance of winning. The mounts may also be entered into regular competition in their respective categories and receive additional awards if they qualify (Best of Show, Best of Category, etc.). The four mounts entered in the Best All Around category MUST be chosen at the time of registration and cannot be changed once judging has started. You will be required to pay the registration for general category and Best All Around if competing as such. This award comes with a plaque and a trophy.
EDUCATIONAL AWARD	It needs to provide the viewer, some type of education of some phase of taxidermy, nature, natural phenomena, conservation, etc. All show judges will judge the pieces entered. To qualify the piece MUST score at least 2 (80) at the Masters level. The piece shall be judged using the following standards.... 50% of the score shall be based upon the education and the statement the overall piece provides. 25% of the score shall be based on the taxidermy skills used, and 25% of the score on the use of habitat entered. To qualify, the piece must score at least an 80 at the Masters level. The winning mount will receive a check for the sum of \$500 and a trophy. The winning mount MUST be donated and put on public display.
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE & MASTERS OF MASTERS AWARD	(See attached rules for further information)
STATE CHAMPION	This award applies to the combined categories- Fish, Manikin, Reptile / Amphibians, Whitetails, Game heads, Mammals, Birds, Habitat, Reproductions, Freeze dry within the Masters Division. To qualify, a mount entered must win a Best of Category. The respective judge in that category will decide the State Champion. This award comes with a trophy.
BEST OF CATEGORY	This award applies to any separate category within the Masters & Professional Division (see category list for further information). To qualify, a mount entered must win a blue ribbon. In the event of a tie, the respective judge in that category will decide the best of category. This award comes with a trophy.

MCKENZIE SERVICE AWARD	Any member in good standing with the association, who has done the most during the past year to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote Professionalism in his/her business 2. Advance the art of Taxidermy 3. Depict Taxidermy and hunting in a positive image 4. Share knowledge of taxidermy techniques 5. Improve the quality of his/her taxidermy work 6. Promote the goals of the state association
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AWARD	This award goes to the best artistic piece in the novice and professional divisions and will be voted upon by the Board of Directors. This award comes with a trophy and a \$250 cash award sponsored by Brad Eldred of Wildlife Gallery.
MICHIGAN TAXIDERMIST ASSOCIATION ABOVE AND BEYOND SERVICE AWARD	This award goes to a business, group or someone who has gone above and beyond in service to the MTA. This award comes with a plaque.
PRO-1 AWARD	Must use a Pro-1 tanning or hide paste product and registered with mount information.
STAR*FISH AWARD	This plaque is given by the association fish judges , whether the blank is made commercially or by the entrant, whether displayed alone or in a setting with other fish or animals.
WALNUT CREEK HARDWOODS ENDEARING AWARD	This award will be open to any division as long as it's on a Walnut Creek Hardwood panel or base. This award will also be presented with a \$50 Walnut Creek Hardwood gift certificate.
MOUNTED IN ALASKA AWARD	Awarded to the life size mount that tells the best story. It will be judged by the MTA members. Award will be a bear paw plaque.
LKD WATER FOWL AWARD	Selected by LKD member's choice. Awarded and engraved duck call
MIOFO VETERAN AWARD	Selected by President of Michigan Operation Freedom Outdoors
MAD AWARD	Awarded to a piece in any category that shows MAD skills and is clean, precise and stunning when you walk in the room. Will be awarded \$100 and judged by a MAD Taxidermy representative.
UTA ARTISEN AWARD	Award to be decided by popular vote of membership (any registered competitor)

Awards subject to change based on supporter/sponsor