



DONALD A. LENTZ OUTSTANDING BANDMASTER AWARD

Donald A. Lentz began teaching at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1937 and retired in 1974 after 37 years at the University. Over the years, Donald Lentz became a respected advisor to high school band programs across the nation. His vigorous encouragement motivated countless directors and students to achieve greater heights and excellence in their respective band programs.

A committee of Eugene Stoll, Mike Veak, and Duane W. Johnson drew up guidelines for the award. The committee’s goal and statement at the time the award was first given, still holds true today. “As a profession we must constantly seek out and welcome opportunities to recognize excellence among band directors throughout the state and make the public aware of the vital role the band director plays in molding today’s youth for a better tomorrow.” The Nebraska Marching Band Festival, held at Pershing, originally funded the award.

The first Don Lentz Outstanding Bandmaster Award was presented to Don Lentz and Bud Johnson at the 1975 NSBA Convention. Don took part in most of the Lentz Award presentations until his death at age 79 in 1987.

Name of Nominee _____

School/Former School of Nominee _____

Nominee’s Email Address _____

Name of Nominator _____

School of Nominator _____

Nominator’s Email Address & Phone _____

Answer the following questions on a word document.

1. Does the candidate demonstrate an interest in the total band program? Explain.
2. How has the candidate evidenced a commitment to a career as a band director?
3. In what ways has the candidate demonstrated by example and deed, the basic principles of an outstanding band director?
4. Has the candidate shown creativity, originality, and imagination as a band director? Explain.
5. List the professional organizations in which the candidate takes part. Include offices held, if any, and individual and group awards.

Include at least three letters of recommendation with your nomination.

Please e-mail your nomination form to Carrie Jensen, the NSBA Awards Chair at nsba.awards@gmail.com no later than December 20th.