

# Memo



To: Western Region Venturing Task Force Members  
From: David A. Wilson & John Van Dreese  
Date: January 3, 2010  
Re: WR VLA Selection & Review Process

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The Venturing Leadership Award (VLA) in the Western Region is presented to Venturers and adults who have made exceptional contributions to Venturing and who exemplify the Venturing Oath and Code in an Area and/or the Region. The Venturing Leadership Award is one of the few awards in the BSA which may be presented to youth, volunteer adults, and BSA professionals equally. The Western Region may present twelve (12) awards for youth and adults each year if they so choose.

In order to ensure an unbiased and smooth selection and review of all Regional VLA nominees the following selection and review process has been put into place for the Western Region.

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- ❖ Regional VLA nominees must be registered members of the Boy Scouts of America and involved in Venturing as a Venturer or as an adult for at least one year.
- ❖ All Regional VLA nominations must be submitted on the official BSA Venturing Leadership Award nomination form.
- ❖ They must hold a leadership position or office at the Area and/or Regional level.
- ❖ In addition to the requirements stated on the Regional VLA Application, all applications should have sufficient documentation provided to demonstrate how the nominee has shown exceptional dedication, and given outstanding leadership & service to Venturing and to Venturers on the Area and/or Regional level.
- ❖ Applications will be evaluated every six months of any given calendar year.
- ❖ Names of all VLA nominees will be kept confidential until an official announcement is made through the Regional Venturing President. All VLA recipients (names, council and year awarded) will be listed on the regional website: <http://www.wrventuring-bsa.org/VLA.html>

- ❖ Due to the dissolution of the Western Region offices, all nominations are to be sent to: **Western Region Venturing Program** Attn: David A. Wilson, 861 West 1100 North, Orem, UT 84057-3053. They may also be sent electronically (email) to: [lds.bsa@gmail.com](mailto:lds.bsa@gmail.com). Nominations will be accepted at any time during a calendar year.
  - If necessary any applications that were denied for one year, will be held and reviewed in the following year, thus insuring that all nominees are given every opportunity to receive this prestigious award.
- ❖ Recipients are selected through a review process chaired by the current Past President's Advisory Team. The review committee is made up no more than five individuals (who all past regional VLA recipients, both adults and Venturers). David Wilson is to act as a resource to the review committee if needed.
- ❖ The Western Region strongly suggests that the presentation of the regional VLA take place at an appropriate location or event such as a large-scale Area event, or at local Council award banquets, courts of honor, or an appropriate Venturing event. Whenever possible a representative of the Western Region leadership or Area key leadership would like to be invited to present each award.
- ❖ Please see that this information is disseminated throughout the Region as well as within your respective Areas. Please inform local Councils and Council VOC's about this change. If you have any questions about this process, please contact David Wilson at: 1.801.361.0033 (cell) or via email at: [lds.bsa@gmail.com](mailto:lds.bsa@gmail.com).