

NAFA Distinguished Alumni Award & Young Alumni Medal

Nomination Guidelines

Effective from 2025

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I. About

The NAFA Distinguished Alumni Award (DAA)

Generations of talent have embarked on their creative journeys at NAFA, leaving an indelible mark on the artistic landscape of Singapore and beyond long after graduation. Their unwavering commitment to excellence, coupled with boundless creativity, renders them highly coveted across diverse industries. Many of these alumni, in turn, generously impart their knowledge and expertise as mentors or educators, shaping the next wave of budding talent.

In acknowledgment of their remarkable contributions, the NAFA Distinguished Alumni Medal was inaugurated in 2009. The award has been renamed to the NAFA Distinguished Alumni Award (DAA) since 2024.

This esteemed accolade celebrates outstanding NAFA graduates who have made significant strides in the realms of arts, culture, and creative industries, locally, regionally or internationally.

Since its inception, this prestigious honor has been bestowed upon distinguished alumni representing a spectrum of disciplines, underscoring NAFA's commitment to supporting our talents beyond graduation.

The NAFA Young Alumni Medal (YAM)

The NAFA Young Alumni Medal, established in 2025, aims to honour young graduates under the age of 40 who have showcased exceptional promise and accomplishments at the outset of their careers. These outstanding alumni exemplify leadership, artistic excellence, and a dedication to making positive contributions to their communities or professions, all while maintaining a strong commitment to their alma mater.

Past Awardees

To view the list of past NAFA Distinguished Alumni awardees, click [here](#) or scan the QR code below:



II. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

Scope of Award

The **Distinguished Alumni Award (DAA)** recognises established alumni who have achieved significant success and recognition in their professional careers or have made noteworthy contributions to the community and are a positive influence in the local and international arts industry. Alumni are acknowledged for their lifetime achievements, continual growth, leadership and contributions that have a wide-reaching impact in their industry or community.

The **Young Alumni Medal (YAM)** acknowledges alumni aged 40 and under who have shown promise and excellence early in their careers or contributions to the community, through distinction from their peers through their early achievements, innovation, and potential for future impact. It aims to inspire young practitioners to pursue excellence with passion and serve as role models for others.

A maximum of six honours are open for nominations for the Distinguished Alumni Awards and Young Alumni Medals under the following categories: -

- Fine Art
- Design
- Performing Arts
- Interdisciplinary Practice

Eligibility

Nominees must satisfy the following criteria -

- Open to NAFA alumni regardless of nationality and place of residence.
- Nominees must be active in their respective fields within the last five years of nomination.
- Young Alumni Medal nominees must be age 40 and below in the year of award. There is no age restriction for Distinguished Alumni Award nominees.
- Posthumous nominations are acceptable.

Assessment Criteria

Nominees of both alumni awards are assessed upon the extent to which they have achieved or demonstrated the following attributes:

- **Professional Achievements:** This could include accomplishments in their chosen career field in the arts, such as notable advancements, leadership roles, innovative projects, publications, or awards received.
- **Leadership and Impact:** Evidence of leadership skills and influence within their field, organisation, or community, and their work's impact on others.
- **Innovation and Creativity:** Highlighting any innovative or creative endeavors they have undertaken, whether in their professional work, entrepreneurial ventures, or personal projects.
- **Service to Alma Mater:** Contributions to NAFA, their alma mater, such as involvement in alumni activities, mentoring current students, fundraising efforts, or advocacy for the institution.
- **Character and Integrity:** Consideration of the individual's character, integrity, and reputation, reflecting positively on both them and their alma mater.
- **Community Involvement:** Recognition of their involvement in community service, volunteer work, or philanthropic endeavors, demonstrating a commitment to making a positive impact beyond their professional endeavors.
- **Potential for Future Success:** Recognition of their potential for continued success and contributions to their field, community, and alma mater in the future.

III. Nomination & Selection Process

Who can nominate?

Both alumni awards are -

- Open to the public for nominations once a year within a stipulated deadline.
- Individuals with a strong understanding of the arts within and outside the NAFA community are invited to submit nominations.
- Self-nominations are accepted.

Selection Process

All eligible nominations received by NAFA's Alumni Relations Office will be evaluated by a selection panel with members from the NAFA board, senior management, and faculty. Up to six honours may be awarded each year, although fewer recipients may be chosen each year.

Note: The selection panel reserves the right to withhold any reasons for the nomination outcomes and to reject incomplete/late nominations.

IV. How to nominate?

Nominations open during the **first quarter of each year** and must be submitted **within six weeks** using the official **nomination e-form** from the NAFA Alumni Relations Office.

Please visit the following platforms for announcements on the nomination period and award updates:

- **NAFA Corporate Website** - <https://www.nafa.edu.sg/alumni>
- **Facebook** - NAFA ALUMNI GROUP [Official]
- **Instagram** - nafa_alumni
- **Linkedin** - NAFA Alumni Relations Office

V. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q: What do the award winners receive?

To encourage and further expand the award winners' artistic journey through NAFA, they may be given a suite of support via the following initiatives:

- Overseas artist residency @ Cite Internationale des Arts, Paris
- Local artist residency @ NAFA Campus, Singapore
- Funded performances / exhibitions
- Donor-funded incentives to support their artmaking
- Publicity

Q: Can I nominate more than 1 person for each submission?

Nominators may nominate more than 1 person on separate form submissions for each open call period before the closing date.

Q: Must I inform the nominee if I am nominating him/her?

Yes, nominees should be informed of their nomination by the nominator, be able to attend the awards ceremony and engage in the initiatives associated with the award.

Q: How long will a nominee be considered if he/she does not win for this round?

Each nominee's name will be on the selection committee's name list for three years for consideration for the respective awards, in line with the stated age limits.

Q: What is the nomination period for the awards?

Nominations will officially open in early March annually, and will be announced on publicity platforms such as the Alumni Relations Office's social media accounts and NAFA corporate website. All nominations must be submitted by **mid-April (6 weeks)**.

The selection panel will review nominations by the end of May. Filming of awardees will take place between June to July. Awards may be presented at NAFA's annual Convocation ceremony or other suitable events. Nominees are to be communicable for the filming and award ceremony.

Q: How will I know if my nominee won the awards?

Both nominator and nominee will be informed over email should he/she be selected as alumni award winners of the year.

Q: I am unable to submit the online form/I have more queries/have other questions not mentioned, where can I seek help?

Please write in to **alumni@nafa.edu.sg** for further clarifications.

Details in this guideline are accurate as of January 2025.