AFN seeks nominations

The Alaska Federation of Natives is now accepting nominations for the AFN President's Awards, according to AFN President Janie Leask.

The purpose of the awards, which were created last year, is to recognize those Alaska Natives who have made substantial contributions to Native people in their respective fields. The different areas represented by the awards include education, small business, health and the special Della Keats Healing Hands Award.

The awards will be presented during this year's AFN Convention in the Egan Convention Center. Oct. 22-24. Nominations should be sent to AFN, 411 West Fourth Ave., Suite 301. Anchorage 99501. The deadline for acceptance of nominations is Sept. 30. Nomination guidelines for the different awards include:

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AFN seeks nominations for President's Awards

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•President's Award for Education for an Alaska Native who has demonstrated strong commitment, competence and sensitivity in the educational field and whose accomplishments in the field have improved educational opportunites for Alaska Natives. Individuals nominated for this award may be involved in traditional education, pre-school, elementary, secondary or post-secondary education. Nominees need not be teachers. Cultural educators, parent committee members, school board members or administrators, teacher aides or any other education-related profession are eligible. President's Award for Small Business is for an Alaska Native who has demonstrated strong commitment, competence and sensitivity in the business field and whose accomplishments have improved the economic opportunities of Alaska Natives.

•President's Award for Health is for an Alaska Native who has demonstrated strong commitment, competence and sensitivity in the health field and whose accomplishments have improved health care for Alaska Natives.

Individuals nominated for this award

may be involved in the areas of health advocacy, program administration, professional care and all other areas of the health profession.

 Della Keats Healing Hands Award is for an Alaska Native who has demonstrated strong commitment, competence and sensitivity as a health care provider and whose accomplishments have most directly affected Native people in their home communities.

The award is named for the late Dr. Della Keats, an Inupiaq healer who served the health care needs of her people for more than 50 years.