



2022 SPIRITED AWARDS® FAQs

Q: When are this year's Spirited Awards?

A: The 16th annual Spirited Awards ceremony will take place on Thursday, July 28, 2022 at the Ritz-Carlton, New Orleans.

Q: What are the key changes or updates to the Spirited Awards this year?

A: The first is around repeat winners. The goal is to acknowledge that past Spirited Award winners have received honor and recognition for their achievements, and the Foundation wants to ensure that others who have not yet had this recognition have the opportunity to be awarded for their work.

- This rule applies to the following categories:
 - (International/U.S.) Bartender of the Year
 - Best (International/U.S.) Bar Mentor
 - Best (International/U.S.) Brand Ambassador
 - Best (International/U.S.) Bar Team
 - Best (International/U.S.) Cocktail Bar
 - Best (International/U.S.) Hotel Bar
 - Best (International/U.S.) Restaurant Bar
 - Best New (International/U.S.) Cocktail Bar
 - Timeless (International/U.S.) Award
 - World's Best Cocktail Menu
 - World's Best Spirits Selection
 - Pioneer Award
 - Helen David Lifetime Achievement Award
 - World's Best Bar
- In addition to this rule, the following updates have been made:
 - If a bar has previously won "World's Best Bar," they are no longer eligible to win another Spirited Award, except for "Timeless" (which is selected through a different set of criteria).
 - If a bar is determined to be a part of a "franchise bar" and one of its locations has previously won a specific award, other locations are no longer eligible for consideration for that award.
 - However, they are eligible for "**Best (International/U.S.) Bar Team**"
 - "**Best Cocktail & Spirits Publication**" & "**Best Broadcast, Podcast, or Online Video Series**": Winners are limited to no more than one (1) award every five (5) years.
 - "**Best Cocktail & Spirits Writing**": The writer of the winning piece is limited to no more than one (1) award every five (5) years.
 - This does not impact future nominations with the same publisher.

- **“Best New Cocktail or Bartending Book” & “Best New Book on Drinks Culture, History, or Spirits”**: An author may not win the same category two (2) years in a row and is limited to no more than two (2) awards in the same category within five (5) years.

Q: How do I nominate?

A: To nominate a bar, product, or person (or yourself) for a Spirited Award, you will need to complete the 2022 Spirited Awards Nomination Form online via [OpenWater](#).

Q: I want to nominate a bar but not sure if they've won before. How can I find out?

A: If you want to nominate a bar or person but want to make sure they haven't won before you can view the [Spirited Awards winner archive](#), where you can view the winners year or by category.

Q: Can I self nominate?

A: Yes, self nominations for bars, products, and/or people are accepted and encouraged! To nominate yourself for a Spirited Award, you will need to complete the 2022 Spirited Awards Nomination Form online via [OpenWater](#).

Q: How many times can I nominate a bar, product, or person?

A: A **single** nomination is all it takes to be recognized for a Spirited Award - categories open for public nomination are **NOT** based on the volume of nominations submitted.

2022 Spirited Awards nominations and self-nominations are now live!

Visit <https://talesofthecocktail.org/events/spirited-awards-ceremony/> learn more about the awards and to submit your nominations. **The 2022 Spirited Awards open to the public nomination process closes Tuesday, March 8 at 11:59 PM EST.**

Q: Which Spirited Awards will be awarded in 2022?

A: The awards that will be judged and awarded for 2022 include:

- (International/U.S.) Bartender of the Year
- Best (International/U.S.) Bar Mentor
- Best (International/U.S.) Brand Ambassador
- Best (International/U.S.) Bar Team
- Best (International/U.S.) Cocktail Bar
- Best (International/U.S.) Hotel Bar
- Best (International/U.S.) Restaurant Bar
- Best New (International/U.S.) Cocktail Bar
- Timeless (International/U.S.) Award
- World's Best Cocktail Menu
- World's Best Spirits Selection
- Best New Spirit or Cocktail Ingredient
- Best Cocktail & Spirits Writing
- Best Cocktail & Spirits Publication
- Best Broadcast, Podcast, or Online Video Series
- Best New Cocktail or Bartending Book

- Best New Book on Drinks Culture, History, or Spirits
- Pioneer Award (*Inducted into Dame Hall of Fame*)
- Helen David Lifetime Achievement Award*
- World's Best Bar*

*Not open for public nominations.

Q: What happened to the “High Volume Cocktail Bar” award?

A: Taking into consideration COVID-19's impact on the industry over the past 2 years, the Spirited Awards Co-Chairs have agreed to retire the "Best International High Volume Cocktail Bar" and "Best U.S. High Volume Cocktail Bar" awards. Moving forward, bars who may have been considered for this category will now fall under either the "Best International/U.S. Cocktail Bar," "Best International/U.S. Hotel Bar," or "Best International/U.S. Restaurant Bar".

Q: Are permanently closed bars eligible for an Award?

A: Although we are sure the bar would have deserved the recognition, permanently closed bars will not be eligible for a Spirited Award.

However, bars that are temporarily closed due to COVID regulations are still eligible for consideration.

Q: What is the eligibility period for new books?

A: The eligibility period for all five awards under the Writing & Media and Books categories is April 2, 2021 - December 31, 2021. So, to be considered, the book must have been published between the dates listed above. This also applies for the writing piece, as well as the sample pieces submitted for “Publication” and “Broadcast/Podcast”.

Q: Why is the eligibility period for “Best New (Intl./U.S.) Cocktail Bar” & “Best New Spirit or Cocktail Ingredient” so long?

A: Since we did not award these two categories in 2021, bars and products that debuted in 2021 will be considered eligible for consideration alongside the expanded eligibility requirements. For the 2020 Spirited Awards, the time period to qualify for “Best New” was between April 1, 2019 and February 26, 2020. This means that for “Best New (International/U.S.) Cocktail Bar,” and “Best New Spirit or Cocktail Ingredient,” the bar, or product must have opened or launched, respectively, **between February 27, 2020 and December 31, 2021.**