



# AOP AWARDS 2020 EXCELLENCE IN OPTICS

**Entry pack** 

# **Categories**

## **Charity of the Year**

This award recognises charities from all corners of the eye health sector, including those who are dedicated to research, raising awareness of optical issues, or supporting people with vision impairments.

#### **Contact Lens Practitioner of the Year**

With a full grasp of product range and innovation, the Contact Lens Practitioner of the Year will be a champion for contact lens wear in the practice and beyond.

## **Dispensing Optician of the Year**

The DO of the Year will have an encyclopaedic lens knowledge, which they have utilised to find creative solutions for patients' individual needs.

## Frame of the Year

This award recognises a frame brought to market in the last three years that has had a significant impact upon the wearer and the dispensing practice or practitioner.

## Health and Wellbeing Initiative of the Year

This award will recognise a practice that understands the important role that health and wellbeing can play in job satisfaction and that a happy, healthy workforce is essential for a successful business.

# **Hospital Optometry Team of the Year**

This award will recognise a hospital optometry team who has created a new system, clinic or branched into an area of ophthalmology, pioneering the way for future hospital optometrists and helping patient care in busy departments.

#### **Lecturer of the Year**

Recognising teaching at the highest level, nominees will be able to demonstrate a commitment to dynamic and informative teaching methods, which inspire clinical excellence amongst students.

#### Locum of the Year

The winner of the Locum of the Year award will demonstrate a drive and commitment to enhancing their clinical skills for the benefit of patients.

CATEGORY SPONSOR

Johnson Johnson vision



Find out more and enter online at www.aop.org.uk/awards

# **Newly-qualified Optometrist of the Year**

Nominees will be optometrists who have been qualified for up to three years who have launched themselves into the early years of their career with enthusiasm and professionalism.

# Optometrist of the Year

This award will recognise an optometrist who has combined a commitment to patient care with hands-on clinical expertise. A team player within the wider optical community, the winner of this award will also play a role in initiatives designed to support the profession.

#### **Practice of the Year**

This award will go to a practice, either multiple, franchise or independent, that can demonstrate clinical excellence and a strong emphasis on the patient journey. The winner will have engaged in educating patients and the wider community about eye health, along with showing a flair for products and services, and an emphasis on looking after every patient on an individual basis.

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#### **Practice Team Member of the Year**

This award will go to the person who has a demonstrable interest in furthering their eye care knowledge and can show outstanding support to the team while providing unique, out-of-the-box customer service.

#### **Product of the Year**

This award is for a product brought to market in the last three years to answer a sector demand for the innovation and that the innovation has proved successful in line with the objectives set.

#### **Student of the Year**

This award will recognise an optometry student, dispensing optician student or pre-registration optometrist who can demonstrate a passion for the profession and evidence of their status as 'an optical leader of the future.'

# **Vision and Hearing Care Practice of the Year**

The Vision and Hearing Care Practice of the Year will be able to demonstrate how they have successfully integrated hearing care into their practice, to complement their eye care services. Nominees will be able to outline the benefits that this supplementary service has brought to their patients, staff and the practice.

# What do I need to know?

#### **KEY DATES**

- Nominations open 1 May 2019
- Nominations close 19 July 2019
- Voting opens 1 October 2019
- Voting closes 18 December 2019

#### **ENTRY FEES**

The AOP Awards is free to enter for UK residents aged 18 and over. Frame of the Year and Product of the Year are open to both UK and international entrants.

#### **HOW TO ENTER**

For each category nominators are required to answer three questions as to why they believe the nominee should win the award. They will also need to provide a biography and supporting photo of the nominee.

Frame of the Year—a manufacturer can submit up to three frames, but they must all be different brands.

#### SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Supporting documentation should be a maximum of two sides of A4 and should include anything the nominator feels will enhance their nomination.

Due to the number of nominations we receive, anything over the two sides of A4 will not be submitted to the judges.

#### **JUDGING**

A panel of judges from across the sector will select a shortlist of finalists for each category.

The judges will rank the finalists (e.g. 1—top ranking, 10—lowest ranking). This will be combined with the public vote ranking to determine the winner.

#### **VOTING**

Voting opens on 1 October 2019 in all categories.

All finalists will be provide with a marketing and PR pack to support their campaign to win votes.

Voting closes in all categories at 5pm on 18 December 2019.

Voting for Frame of the Year and Product of the Year is exclusive to AOP Members

#### **WINNERS**

The public vote will be converted into a ranking (e.g. 1—top ranking, 10—lowest ranking) which will be combined with the judges ranking.

The winner for each category, excluding Lifetime Achievement Award, will be the finalist with the lowest combined ranking from the judges and the public vote.

The Lifetime Achievement Award is selected by an AOP panel, including our Chief Executive and Chair.

Winners will be announced at a gala dinner and awards ceremony on Sunday 26 January 2020.

For more information on the AOP Awards 2020, including the full terms and conditions, please visit www.aop.org.uk/awards



Find out more and enter online at www.aop.org.uk/awards