



PRESS RELEASE
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Contact: Keith Anderson, Chair
Barn of the Year committee
Michigan Barn Preservation Network
Klanderson42@gmail.com

MICHIGAN BARN PRESERVATION NETWORK
Request for submissions for 2017 Barns of the Year

The **Michigan Barn Preservation Network (MBPN)** is requesting submissions for their 2017 **Michigan Barn of the Year Awards**, which will be presented at the 22nd Annual Conference, Spring Barn Tour and Meeting to be held Friday and Saturday, May 5 & 6, 2017 at a location to be determined and announced in the near future.

This is the 20th year the Network has presented “Barn of the Year” Awards. Including 2016 awardees, a total of sixty-five barns from across Michigan have been recognized for their unique qualities and/or preservation efforts.

The Barn of the Year Program annually honors existing Michigan barns that exemplify outstanding character in our state. Nominated barns must have been built before 1957 and be in-use for one of four purposes. Barns must retain their overall appearance—both interior and exterior barn characteristics. Nominations are open to the public, reviewed and determined by MBPN Awards Committee members.

The four categories in which awards are presented are barns that are in use for:

- Continuing Family or Private Agricultural Use
- Family or Private Adaptive Use
- Non-Profit Agricultural or Adaptive Use
- Commercial Agricultural or Adaptive Use

Barns will be judged for completeness of information presented in the application, sensitivity and integrity of repairs or modification, visual appeal, creativity, thoroughness of work and effort expended to repair and maintain.

Four items are required for the submission:

- A written narrative
- Photographs
- A completed application form
- A completed MBPN Survey form.

The application and the survey form can be found on the MBPN website (www.mibarn.com) under the Resource Tab. Nominations must be postmarked by March 24, 2017.

For additional information, contact Keith Anderson, Chairman of the MBPN Barn of the Year committee at 616-540-6701 or Klanderson42@gmail.com

The Michigan Barn Preservation Network is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting, appreciation, preservation and rehabilitation of Michigan barns, farmsteads and rural communities.
