

Golden Hand Award

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The highest award of Utah Association of the Deaf (UAD) known is known as “Golden Hand Award.” This award honors people or organizations for their extraordinary work or accomplishment. This award is decided by the Golden Hand Committee after receiving nominations from the Utah Deaf community. Moreover, the Golden Hand Award is presented biennially to an individual or organization that has substantially contributed to the betterment the Deaf community in Utah.

Historically, Golden Hand Award was started by National Association of the Deaf. They have encouraged state associations to set up a state Golden Hand Award. UAD did not set it up until 1979, as listed below.

The criteria of Golden Hand Award are:

- Any individual or organization that has made a substantial contribution to the improvement of the Utah deaf community may be nominated.
- Individuals must not have received pay for the volunteer work. Organizations must not have paid individuals to do volunteer work.
- Programs under an agency with a paid staff may be nominated, but the extent of salaried activities must be clearly indicated on the nomination statement.
- Volunteer activities must have been performed within the state of Utah.
- Screening committee members may not submit nominations.
- Individuals and groups may submit as many separate nominations as desired.

After going through the hard copy of UAD Bulletins, I have listed of names that have received their Golden Hand Award. However, please be cautioned that some of the name may be missing. Once our UAD Bulletins are digitized and posted to website archives, I should be able to find accuracy of data. As of now, I’ve put the names/years together the best I could. So, enjoy!

W. David Mortensen Robert G. Sanderson	1979
Valerie G. Platt	1981
St. Mary Magdalene Club for the Deaf	1983
Lloyd L. Perkins	1985
Celia May Baldwin	1987
Beth Ann Campbell	1989
Peter M. Green	1991
Rodney W. Walker	1993
Lucy M. Greenwood	1995
Robert J. Welsh	1997
Minnie Mae Wilding Diaz, Jeff J. Allen and UDEAL	1999
Barbara A. Bass	2002
Dennis R. Platt	2004
Sorenson Communications	2007
Association of Deaf Children	2009
Jodi Becker Kinner	2013
Philippe Montalette	2015
Marilyn T. Call	2017
Joene Nicholaisen	2017
Stephanie Mathis	2017
Justin Anderson	2017
Michelle Tanner	2019
Joel Coleman	2019
Pamela Mower	2019
Matt Willahan	2019