



Unatego Hall of Distinction

**Unatego Central School
2641 State Highway 7
Otego, NY 13825**

I. PURPOSE

The Unatego Central School Hall of Distinction was established to:

- honor Unatego Central School graduates who have distinguished themselves through recognition, honor, and distinction during their lives.
- identify role models for the current students of Unatego Central School.
- make a connection to the District's history for the current students of Unatego Central School.
- provide public awareness of the successes of Unatego Central School graduates.

II. LOCATION

A public display of plaques honoring each of the inductees will be maintained on a wall of prominence in the Unatego Jr. Sr. High School building. The District's website will be used to publicize the Unatego Central School Hall of Distinction.

III. INDUCTION AND CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Candidates for nomination for the Unatego Hall of Distinction must have graduated from Unadilla Central School, Otego Central School, or Unatego Central School. Any waivers must be unanimously agreed upon by the Selection Committee. To be eligible for consideration and induction, the individual must have demonstrated noteworthy or outstanding achievement in any of the following categories:

- A. Leadership
- B. Community, National, or International Service
- C. Academics
- D. Arts
- E. Athletics
- F. Professional Accomplishments

IV. TIMELINE FOR SELECTION AND INDUCTION

The induction ceremony will be held as a part of a Unatego winter season sporting event in the Unatego High School gymnasium. Each year, the Unatego Alumni Association will solicit through its newsletter, Facebook, Twitter, District Website, local newspapers, etc., nominations of individuals to be considered for induction. Nominations will be sent to: Chairperson, Unatego High School Hall of Distinction Committee. A master list of nominees will be compiled and maintained by the Chairperson. The full committee will begin meeting in February of each calendar year and each month subsequent (or as business dictates), until the final vote is taken in April or May. A full narrative ballot will be available to each Hall of Distinction Committee member by March 1st.

The HOD Committee may, at its discretion, devise other methods of soliciting names of nominees for induction. Committee members themselves are ineligible to submit names for consideration.

After the voting has been completed, the names of the inductees will be forwarded to the President of the Unatego Central School Alumni Association so that the individual(s) may be contacted. It is the hope of the Committee that the individual(s) will attend the ceremony to receive their award. However, if that is not possible, or unless of course they are being inducted posthumously, a representative may attend in his/her place. Note: The President must be able to contact and communicate with the individual(s) nominated, or their representative, in order to ascertain their interest and commitment to being inducted to the Hall of Distinction.

ANNUAL TIMELINE

- a. July 1 – February 15 – Period during which nominations may be submitted. Nominations received on or before February 15 will be accepted and reviewed. Applications received after this date will be reviewed the following year.
- b. March 1 – March 31 - Selection Committee reviews nominations and information is verified.
- c. April 1 – May 31 - At their convenience and availability, the Selection Committee will meet to vote on the up to five (5) inductees.
- d. June 1 – June - 15 - Selected nominees will be notified.
- e. Graduation Ceremony - Names of inductees will be announced.
- f. December/January – Induction ceremony

V. SELECTION PROCESS

a. Nominations

Up to five (5) nominees will be selected for the Hall of Distinction each year. All the nominees eligible for induction will have an equal opportunity to be selected through the voting procedure outlined below. All members of the selection committee present at the voting meeting are eligible to vote. (Selection Committee and Hall of Distinction Committee are defined below.) All nominees will remain on the master list for a period of five years before being removed. Names can also be removed from the master list if they receive no votes for three (3) consecutive years. Once a name has been removed from the master list, it can be added back if that individual is re-nominated at a later time.

b. Voting Procedure

1. All nominations will be compiled by the Chairperson of the HOD. These will be made available to every member of the HOD Committee. This list will be narrowed down to ten (10) names and, later, to a final list of no more than five (5) inductees.
2. The ballot will be reviewed the day of the vote and will include a discussion of each individual nominee. Facts in the narrative will also be verified.
3. First vote: Each committee member will mark up to five (5) names from the master list. Each individual nominee receiving three (3) votes will advance to the next vote.
4. Second vote: Each committee member will mark up to five (5) names from the shortened list from the first vote. Each individual nominee receiving five (5) votes will advance to the next vote.
5. Before the final vote takes place, the floor will be open for a brief discussion of any nominees included on the final ballot.
6. Third (Final) Vote: Each committee member will mark up to five (5) votes from the final list. Voting will continue until up to five (5) individuals receive a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

VI. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Hall of Distinction Committee will consist of exactly ten (10) members appointed by the Unatego Alumni Association's executive board. The members may include a mix of school district employees or former employees, alumni, residents of the Unatego School District, or any person knowledgeable of the school district.

The Selection Committee will include all ten (10) members of the Unatego High School Hall of Distinction Committee.

