COMMANDANT OF MIDSHIPMEN NOTICE 1650

From: Commandant of Midshipmen

Subj: END OF ACADEMIC YEAR 2016 PRIZES AND AWARDS

Ref: (a) USNAINST 1650.6A
(b) COMDTMIDNINSTR 1620.2D
(c) COMDTMIDNINSTR 1650.12B
(d) COMDTMIDNINSTR 1650.13
(e) COMDTMIDNINSTR 1650.4D
(f) COMDTMIDNINSTR 1650.10A
(g) COMDTMIDNINSTR 1650.5E

Encl: (1) Listing of Prizes and Awards Including Selection Criteria
(2) Plan of Action and Milestones

1. **Purpose.** To obtain nominations and set guidelines for certain prizes and awards.

2. **Information.** References (a) through (g) provide additional guidance for determining specific award recipients within the Commandant of Midshipmen’s area of responsibility.

3. **Action.** Commandant’s staff will review enclosure (1), and submit nominations in accordance with enclosure (2). Nominations for the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association, LT Merrill F. Collier Leadership, Uruguayan Naval, Senator Margaret Chase Smith Leadership, and USNA Mission Excellence Awards will include a letter of recommendation or nomination information sheet, a midshipman Performance Record and an Academic Summary.

4. **Award recipients** will be approved by the Superintendent and Commandant of Midshipmen, or delegated to various Division Directors and Department Chairmen on the Yard.

R. A. RIVERA
By direction

Distribution:
Non-Mids (Electronically)
LISTING OF PRIZES AND AWARDS INCLUDING SELECTION CRITERIA

SUPERINTENDENT AWARD

U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARD

A monetary check will be awarded to the member of the graduating class who best exemplifies the ideals and traditions of the Naval Service and who best combines outstanding leadership and professionalism, academic distinction, and athletic achievement. Nominations will be submitted per reference (a).

COMMANDANT OF MIDSHIPMEN AWARDS

ADAIR AWARD

Presented to the graduating president of the Semper Fidelis Society Extra Curricular Activity (ECA). The award is a Marine Corps blue dress uniform and is presented at a special ceremony. The recipient's name will be provided by the Semper Fidelis Officer Representative.

ADAMS AWARD

A ship's clock is presented to the Junior Officer selected from the Commandant's Staff whose contributions to the leadership and professional and moral development of midshipmen reflect the highest principles of excellence in professionalism and leadership development. The recipient is determined in accordance with reference (b).

ADMIRAL DE GRASSE PRIZE

A French Navy officer's sword will be presented on behalf of the French Chief of Naval Operations to the midshipman who has displayed a great dedication and interest in navigation, as well as outstanding leadership and professionalism in his or her contribution to Yard Patrol Craft operations. The recommended recipient is approved by the Seamanship and Navigation Department (SEANAV) and the award presented at a special ceremony.

ADMIRAL DEWEY AWARD

The faculty of the Weapons and Systems Engineering Department core courses select the midshipman in the graduating class who stands highest in their courses in Naval Weaponry, excels in the weapons phase of professional training through demonstrated mastery, possesses a genuine interest of the subject matter, and displays excellent potential for success. The prize is a naval officer's dress sword. The recipient's name is approved by the Chairman, Weapons and Systems Engineering Department.

ADMIRAL FRANK B. KELSO II, CLASS OF 1956 AWARD

Member of the graduating class who stands highest in order of merit among those who have chosen submarine warfare as their service selection. The prize is a naval officer's dress sword. The recipient is determined by the Aptitude Office using data contained in the Midshipmen Information System (MIDS) and approved by the Commandant.

Enclosure (1)
AVIATORS' POST NO. 743 AWARD

Member of the graduating class who stands highest in order of merit among those who have chosen aviation as their service selection. The prize is a naval officer's dress sword. The recipient is determined by the Aptitude Office using data contained in MIDS and approved by the Commandant.

BRAINERD AWARD

A naval officer's dress sword will be presented to the midshipman of the graduating class who has contributed most to strengthening the Honor Concept within the brigade. The recipient is nominated by the Character Development & Training Honor Program staff and approved by the Commandant.

CAPTAIN JOSEPH K. TAUSSIG, JR. AWARD

A naval officer's dress sword will be presented to a prior enlisted midshipman of the graduating class who has attained the highest order of merit, and who has selected surface warfare upon commissioning. Midshipmen whose enlisted service was only at the Naval Academy Preparatory School (NAPS) are not qualified for consideration. The midshipman must have demonstrated leadership ability while serving in the Brigade Organization at the brigade, regiment, battalion or company level. The award recipient is approved by the Commandant.

CARL VINSON LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Binoculars and plaques will be presented by the American Legion Boys' State Alumni Association to the midshipman in each of the second, third, and fourth classes who stands highest for the year in military performance. Recipients are selected by using the military order of merit. On recommendation of the Aptitude Officer, ties are broken by using data contained in the midshipmen's performance records. The award recipients are approved by the Commandant.

CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS DISTINGUISHED MIDSHIPMEN GRADUATES (DMG)

Presented to 25 midshipmen of the graduating class that will be commissioned as officers in the U.S. Armed Forces. Up to 13 midshipmen, who have successfully served as summer, fall, and spring Midshipman Captains and Midshipman Commanders, may be selected. Order of Merit will guide the remaining selections. The Deputy Commandant using this guidance, will nominate 25 DMGs to the Commandant for approval.

CLASS OF 1879 AWARD

A naval officer's dress sword and a $300.00 U.S. Savings Bond is presented to a Brigade Commander in recognition of outstanding leadership within the Brigade. The name is also engraved on a plaque displayed in Bancroft Hall. The recipient is approved by the Commandant.

CLASS OF 1897 SWORD AND CUP

Presented to the midshipman of the graduating class who has contributed outstanding leadership qualities as a Second Regimental Commander. The midshipman is awarded a naval officer's dress sword and his or her name is engraved on the 1897 cup displayed in Mitscher Hall. The recipient is approved by the Commandant.
CLASS OF 1926 SHIPHANDLER AWARD

Presented to the midshipman of the graduating class who demonstrated the highest level of excellence in shiphandling and leadership during Atlantic Professional Afloat Training of Midshipmen (LANTPAT) during the previous summer. The award recipient will be nominated by the LANTPAT Coordinator and the SEANAV Operations Officer, and approved by the Chairman, Seamanship and Navigation Department. The award is a set of binoculars and is presented at the SEANAV Annual Awards Ceremony at the end of the academic year.

CLASS OF 1950 AWARD

Presented to the Brigade Honor Advisor for efforts in keeping the honor concept alive in the minds of the midshipmen. Binoculars and a plaque are presented to the prize winner. The recipient is nominated by the Character Development & Training Honor Program staff and approved by the Commandant.

CLASS OF 1961 AWARD

Presented to that midshipman of the graduating class who has the highest standing in the professional courses and stands highest in military order of merit. The prize is a naval officer's dress sword. The recipient's name is determined by the Aptitude Office using data contained in MIDS and approved by the Commandant.

COLLEEN S. SMILEY-OWEN OFF TEACH EXCELLENCE AWARD

A Naval Academy watch and a plaque are presented to a military or civilian faculty member who has taught for more than one year in the Department of Seamanship and Navigation, or in the Department of Leadership, Ethics and Law. This faculty member must have, by professional performance, best characterized the principles of excellence in teaching. The recipient of the prize is determined in accordance with reference (c).

COLONEL C. GRIFFIN MOODY, USMC, MILITARY-PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Midshipman of the graduating class who achieves the highest cumulative military professional quality point average (CMQPR). Prizes are binoculars and a plaque. The recipient's name is determined by the Aptitude Office using data contained in MIDS and approved by the Commandant.

DR. CHARLES H. COATES AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MILITARY SOCIOLOGY

The recipient shall be from among those graduating midshipmen who have studied and/or conducted student research in sociology related courses in the Leadership, Ethics and Law Department, and whose performance has demonstrated the potential to embrace and understand sociology as it serves the Naval Service and the Nation. The prize consists of an inscribed tray and a one year student membership in the Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society (IUS), and subscription to its quarterly peer-reviewed academic journal, Armed Forces and Society. The recipient is approved by the Director, Leadership, Ethics and Law Department.

DR. KAREL MONTOR LEADERSHIP AWARD

Winners (10) of the Dr. Karel Montor Leadership Award are selected by the faculty of the NE 203 and NL 310 courses. Winners must have received A’s in all Leadership and Ethics courses as well as be in the top 1% of classroom
performance. Winners are evaluated on their overall course involvement as well as their leadership within the Brigade of Midshipmen. Each winner of the Dr. Karel Montor Leadership Award is subsequently offered membership into the United States Naval Academy’s Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Honor Society. Winners are approved by the Director, Leadership, Ethics and Development Division (LEAD) and are announced as part of the LEAD Division Awards Ceremony at the end of the academic year.

**FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION PRIZE**

Midshipman of the graduating class who is recognized for outstanding leadership as a First Regiment Commander. Prize is a naval officer’s dress sword. The recipient is approved by the Commandant.

**FORRESTAL AWARD**

Midshipman who commands the fall semester Color Company. Prize is a silver tray.

**FREDERICK W. WRIGHT, JR., CLASS OF 1931 AWARD**

Presented to the midshipman of the graduating class with the highest class standing who enters the surface warfare community upon graduation. The prize is a naval officer’s dress sword. The recipient is determined by the Aptitude Office using data contained in MIDS and approved by the Commandant.

**GILLEY AWARD**

Presented to the midshipman who exhibits exemplary leadership in the U.S. Naval Academy Protestant Choir. The award is a check and a framed certificate which is presented at a special ceremony. The recipient’s name will be nominated by the Protestant Choir Director and approved by the Director, Musical Activities.

**JOHN ROACH PRIZE**

Midshipman of the graduating class who is selected as an outstanding First Regiment Commander. Prize is a naval officer’s dress sword. The recipient is approved by the Commandant.

**LIEUTENANT MERRILL F. COLLIER AWARD**

The Lieutenant Merrill F. Collier Award is named for Lieutenant Merrill F. Collier who was elected President of his class in each of his years at the Academy and was the Brigade Commander for two-thirds of his First Class Year. He was a leader without peer. LT Collier died in service to his country on April 10, 1963 when the submarine THRESHER was lost at sea with all hands. Each year, the award is presented to the Brigade Commander who has had the greatest impact on the Brigade through exceptional aptitude and conduct, academics, professionalism, and leadership. The Battalion Officers of the two Brigade Commanders are responsible for forwarding summary records to the Commandant, who will select the recipient of the award. The recipient will receive a clock and a barometer.

**MAJOR KEALEY AWARD**

This award is not meant to go to the most involved member of the Midshipman Action Group (MAG), but to someone who represents a well-rounded midshipman
and captures the fighting spirit of Major Elizabeth Kealey, USMC, USNA Class of 2005. The award recipient is determined by a board as directed by the Commandant's Operations Officer. The award is a plaque which is approved by the Commandant, and presented at a special ceremony.

MAJOR RICHARD J. GANNON II, USMC, AWARD

Presented to a Navy or Marine Corps officer who, after earning a degree through the Naval Academy's LEAD Master's Program and having served one year as a Company Officer, demonstrates excellence in leadership, mentorship, and development of midshipmen. The award consists of a Naval Academy wrist watch, an engraved plaque, and an award certificate. Reference (d) provides guidance and a specific time line for this award.

MAC SHORT AWARD

Presented to the midshipman of the graduating class who, having been selected for flight training with the intention of qualifying as a Navy or Marine aviator, is selected for superior achievement among those completing a major in Aerospace Engineering. A watch is presented and the recipient's name will be engraved on a plaque located in the Aerospace Engineering Department. The recipient is approved by the Chairman, Aerospace Engineering Department.

NATIONAL LADIES AUXILIARY, JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES PRIZE

Midshipman of the graduating class who is selected as an outstanding Second Regiment Commander. The prizes are binoculars and a plaque. The recipient is approved by the Commandant.

NATIONAL SOCIETY DAUGHTERS OF FOUNDERS AND PATRIOTS OF AMERICA PRIZE

The award is presented to the midshipman who demonstrates outstanding knowledge of naval tactics in a scholarly essay with emphasis on development of modern tactical warfare thought, and receives the highest final grade in NS300 Naval Warfare. The recipient will receive a naval officer's sword. The Chairman, Seamanship and Navigation Department approves the winner of this prize.

NATIONAL SOCIETY, UNITED STATES DAUGHTERS OF 1812 PRIZE

Member of the graduating class who stands highest in order of merit among those to be commissioned in the U.S. Marine Corps. The prizes are a watch and a plaque. Recommended recipient is determined by the Aptitude Office using data contained in MIDS and approved by the Commandant.

NATIONAL WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS PRIZE

Midshipman of the graduating class who is selected as an outstanding Brigade Executive Officer. Prizes are binoculars and a plaque. The recipient is approved by the Commandant.

NAVAL LEADERSHIP PRIZE (CAPTAIN MALCOLM E. WOLFE)

Midshipman selected as an outstanding Brigade Commander. Prizes are a $300.00 U.S. Savings Bond and a naval officer's dress sword. The recipient is approved by the Commandant.
NAVY LEAGUE’S COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Presented to the midshipman of the graduating class who best exemplifies excellence in community service, and combines outstanding leadership, professionalism, and sustained support and participation. The prize is a $250.00 check and the award recipient is determined by a board as directed by the Commandant’s Operations Officer. The award is approved by the Commandant and presented at a special ceremony.

NEW YORK YACHT CLUB EXCELLENCE AT SEA AWARD

Presented to a Midshipman of the graduating class for excellence in academics and performance in Naval Academy sail or power craft. The recipient’s name will be engraved on a trophy displayed in the Hall of Fame in the Robert Crown Sailing Center. A naval officer’s sword will be presented to the midshipman at the Prizes and Awards ceremony. The recipient is approved by the Director, Naval Academy Sailing.

NICKERSON AWARD

A Marine Corps officer’s sword and scabbard is given to the outstanding midshipman graduate who has demonstrated superior leadership, integrity, and potential as a future Marine Corps officer. It is presented by the Order of the Founders and Patriots of America in recognition of the meritorious service rendered by Lieutenant General Herman Nickerson, Jr., USMC. The recipient’s name will be provided to the Superintendent by a USMC Awards Board, via the Senior Marine, Unites States Naval Academy. The sword will be presented to the midshipman at the USMC Family Orientation and Awards Ceremony during Commissioning Week.

PERUVIAN NAVAL MEDAL OF HONOR TO MERIT

Presented to the midshipman of the graduating class who stands first in order of merit. The award is a medal provided by the Peruvian Navy. The recipient’s name is determined by the Aptitude Office using data contained in MIDS and approved by the Commandant.

RABBI ROSENBLATT AWARD

Presented to a midshipman of the Jewish faith who has demonstrated exemplary leadership in Jewish religious activities. The award of a $100.00 U.S. Savings Bond and an assortment of books will be presented at a special ceremony. The recipient is approved by the Naval Academy Rabbi.

RAMSEY AWARD

Presented to the Color Company Commanders for the fall and spring semesters. The prize is a naval officer’s dress sword and is presented at a special ceremony.

REAR ADMIRAL DRAPER L. KAUFFMAN LEADERSHIP AWARD

Presented to the midshipman of the second class who consistently meets the spirit of Admiral Kauffman: volunteerism, service without expectation of reward or recognition, and resolute focus on mission accomplishment. The award itself is a wrist watch presented early in the subsequent fall semester to the midshipman whose name is also inscribed on a perpetual plaque mounted in Luce Hall. Reference (e) provides additional guidance for this award.
Company officers are asked to screen both the nominator and nominee for eligibility. The award recipient is approved by the Commandant.

**SENATOR MARGARET CHASE SMITH LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARD**

Presented to the first class female midshipman who is determined to have the highest level of conscience-driven leadership, dedicated service to the greatest good, personal independence and integrity, while displaying the highest standards of professionalism and personal conduct as a role model. The award is a naval officer’s dress sword. The recipient is selected by a board held in May and chaired by the Deputy Commandant, where Battalion Officers will brief their nominee’s record along with any other significant contributions and achievements. Reference (f) provides additional guidance for this award. The award recipient is approved by the Commandant.

**SOCIETY OF SPONSORS OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY PRIZE**

Presented to the midshipman of the graduating class who has achieved the highest proficiency in the art of practical shiphandling. The award will be presented to the most deserving fall semester Yard Patrol Squadron Officer. The recipient will receive a leather attaché case. The Chairman, Seamanship and Navigation Department approves the winner of this prize.

**SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI IN THE STATE OF VIRGINIA PRIZE**

Presented to the midshipman who has demonstrated outstanding leadership capabilities as Brigade Executive Officer. Prizes are a gold medal, binoculars, and a plaque. The award recipient is approved by the Commandant.

**STEWARD WIGHT HANNAH MEMORIAL TROPHY**

The name of the spring semester Color Company Commander will be engraved on a trophy which will be retained and prominently displayed in Mitscher Hall. He or she will also receive a framed company guidon with blue border.

**URUGUAYAN NAVAL AWARD**

Member of the graduating class who stands highest in academic courses in leadership, has received perfect grades in conduct and aptitude, has demonstrated outstanding leadership in practical drills, and is recommended by his Company and Battalion Officer. Prizes are a medal and diploma. The candidates’ names are determined by the Aptitude Office using data contained in MIDS. The winner is determined by a board as directed by the Chairman, Leadership, Ethics, and Law Department, and approved by the Commandant.

**U.S. NAVAL INSTITUTE AND LIEUTENANT TIBBALS MEMORIAL AWARD**

Member of the graduating class who achieves the highest standing for the four year course among those who, before entrance, served on active duty in an enlisted status in one of the armed services of the United States. The prize will consist of an engraved plaque, a 3-year membership in the Naval Institute and two Naval Institute Press books. The recommended recipient is determined by the Aptitude Office using data contained in MIDS and approved by the Commandant.
USAA COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Presented to the midshipman of the graduating class who best exemplifies excellence in community service and combines outstanding leadership, professionalism, and sustained support and participation. The prize is a $500.00 check to the recipient and an additional $500.00 check is awarded to the Midshipman Action Group in the name of the awardee. Reference (g) provides guidance and a separate time line for this award. The award recipient is approved by the Commandant.

USNA MISSION EXCELLENCE AWARD

Presented by the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) to the midshipman who best embodies excellence for superior performance in academics, military order of merit, and physical fitness. The award is $500 in cash, and a certificate as a memento of the award. The recipient will also receive a lifetime membership in MOAA without charge. The recipient is selected by a board held in May and chaired by the Deputy Commandant, where Battalion Officers will brief their nominee's records along with any other significant contributions and achievements. The award recipient is approved by the Commandant.

VICE ADMIRAL THOMAS L. GATCH PRIZE

The award is presented to the midshipman of the graduating class who demonstrates the greatest proficiency in surface tactics and operational planning, including line and screen tactics, underway replenishment, and operation order planning. The prize is a set of binoculars and a plaque. The Chairman, Seamanship and Navigation Department approves the winner of this prize.

WALLER AWARD

Vice Admiral Waller served as Superintendent of the Naval Academy between 1981 and 1983. An eighteen inch strand of pearls is presented to the Color Honoree at the Commissioning Week Color Parade. The Color Honoree is designated by the Company Commander of the spring semester Color Company. The necklace is donated by Vice Admiral Edward C. Waller in memory of his daughter, Kristen, the 1983 Color Honoree.
PLAN OF ACTION AND MILESTONES

18 Mar - Battalion Officers and Department Directors within the Commandant’s Cost Center will submit their nominations for the Frank M. Adams Junior Officer Leadership Award to the Aptitude Office.

29 Mar - Frank M. Adams Leadership Award Board, from 1200 to 1300, in the Commandant’s Conference Room. Board membership is per reference (b).

6 Apr - Company Officers forward their qualified nominations for the Alumni Association Award to Battalion Officers.

Company Officers forward their qualified nominations for the USNA Mission Excellence Award to Battalion Officers.

13 Apr - The Leadership, Ethics, and Law Department Awards Coordinator has provided Company Officers a list of First Class Midshipmen eligible to receive the Uruguayan Naval Award. Company officers will forward nominations to their Battalion Officer.

Company Officers forward their qualified nominations for the Senator Margaret Chase Smith to their Battalion Officers.

Company Officers forward their qualified nominations for the RADM Draper L. Kauffman Award to Battalion Officers.

20 Apr - Battalion Officers will forward nominations for midshipmen eligible to receive the Uruguayan Naval Award to Lieutenant Kristin Landsinger, Leadership, Ethics, and Law, Luce Hall Room 209.

Battalion Officers will forward their nomination for the Senator Margaret Chase Smith Leadership Award Lieutenant Kristin Landsinger, Leadership, Ethics, and Law, Luce Hall Room 209.

Battalion Officers will forward no more than five nominations for the RADM Draper L. Kauffman Award to Lieutenant Kristin Landsinger, Leadership, Ethics, and Law, Luce Hall Room 209.

Battalion Officers will forward their nomination for the Major Richard J. Gannon II, USMC, Award to Lieutenant Kristin Landsinger, Leadership, Ethics, and Law, Luce Hall Room 209.

Fourth and Sixth Battalion Officers will forward summary records for the fall and spring Brigade Commanders, eligible for the Lieutenant Merrill F. Collier Award to the Aptitude Officer.

18 Apr - Names of midshipmen to receive internal awards determined by academic departments are provided to the Aptitude Office for conduct and aptitude grade screening.

Week of - LEAD Awards Board in the Commandant’s Conference Room. Board membership is per references (e) and (f).

27 Apr - Battalion Officers will forward their nomination for the USNA Mission Excellence Award to the Aptitude Office.
2 May - Battalion Officers will forward at least one nomination for the Alumni Association Award to the Aptitude Office.

16 May - Awards based on preliminary grades are identified by the Aptitude Office.

26 May - Prizes and Awards Ceremony.