

MSAC FY2027 Heritage Award

Nomination Scoring Rubric

Criterion 1: Nomination's identification of a form of folklife

Nomination questions

- Describe the cultural history and community of origin of the form of folklife being considered in this nomination.
- Describe the current community participating in the form of folklife being considered in this nomination.

Excellent (17-20 points)	Good (13-16 points)	Fair (9-12 points)	Poor (8 or fewer points)
Nomination clearly identifies a living cultural tradition strongly connected to a cultural community of origin over a generational period of practice	Nomination identifies a living cultural tradition connected to a cultural community of origin over a moderate period of practice	Nomination partially or ambiguously identifies a living cultural tradition connected to a cultural community of origin over a limited or unclear period of practice	Nomination's connection to folklife and cultural community of origin is negligible or not present

Criterion 2: Nominee's connection to the folklife of a particular community of origin

Nomination questions

- Explain and provide evidence of the nominee's importance to the current community participating in the form of folklife described above.

Excellent (17-20 points)	Good (13-16 points)	Fair (9-12 points)	Poor (8 or fewer points)
Nominee's importance to the folklife of a cultural community of origin is clearly demonstrated	Nominee's importance to the folklife of a cultural community of origin is demonstrated	Nominee's importance to the folklife of a cultural community of origin is somewhat demonstrated	Limited or no connection made between nominee and the folklife of a cultural community of origin

Criterion 3: Nominee's sustained engagement with folklife as a person or people, place, or tradition

Nomination questions

- Explain and provide evidence of the nominee's sustained engagement with the form of folklife described above, either as an individual (for Person/People nominations); a community gathering place (for Place nominations); or a traditional practice (for Tradition nominations).

Excellent (17-20 points)	Good (13-16 points)	Fair (9-12 points)	Poor (8 or fewer points)
Nominee's engagement with folklife clearly extends over a substantial period of time	Nominee's engagement with folklife extends over a moderate period of time	Nominee's engagement with folklife extends over a limited or unclear period of time	Nominee's length of engagement with folklife is negligible or not stated