



**Beacon Awards  
2015**

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## Information pack for Beacon Award nominations

Thank you for your interest in nominating someone for a Beacon Award. Many of the UK's leading philanthropists have been honoured with a Beacon Award – following the guidance in this pack will help maximise your nominee's chance of joining this prestigious fellowship.

This pack contains information about the categories and criteria for the Beacon Awards 2015. Please read this information carefully before preparing and submitting your nomination. Nominations are submitted through the [Beacon website](#).

Beacon is looking for people who are using their resources to benefit society. The amount of money they give is not, on its own, important, what we are seeking is people whose work will inspire others and whose achievements and lessons learned will help other philanthropists as they think about and plan their approaches to changing the world.

Even in less austere times there was plenty of scope and need for philanthropic activity. Beacon is encouraging philanthropists to mobilise new resources more effectively to meet needs, create opportunities and develop new ways of thinking and acting to benefit society.

Beacon's role is to promote the exciting work that philanthropists are doing in order to inspire others and to create opportunities for ideas and information exchanges that will make philanthropy even more effective and widespread across the UK.

The [Beacon Award for Philanthropy](#) is the main category for individual philanthropists; several awards will be made under this category.

In addition to the Beacon Award for Philanthropy we will also be presenting:

- [Beacon Award for Outstanding Philanthropic Foundation](#)
- [Beacon Award for an Outstanding Partnership Between a Philanthropist and a Charity](#)
- [Beacon Award for City Philanthropy](#)
- [Beacon Award for Cultural Philanthropy](#)
- [Beacon Award for Impact Investment](#)
- Judges' Special Award (for any prospective nominees who do not fit the above categories)

Follow the links above for full details of the criteria for each category.

### Eligibility

With the exception of the philanthropic foundation category **all nominees must be donors who give away their own personal money** for the benefit of society. In the

Impact Investment category nominees must invest their own money for the benefit of society. In all categories the nominees' primary residence must be the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man or Republic of Ireland.

You may nominate an individual, family or small group of individuals working collaboratively (with the exception of the categories for philanthropic foundation and partnership between a philanthropist and a charity)

Beacon Award winners will be asked to participate in Beacon's thought leadership events and ideas exchange opportunities. Please only nominate people who will be willing to let their philanthropic work be used in this way.

### Preparing your nomination

The nomination form has been made as short and simple as possible in order that the information that goes to the judges is the most relevant information about the nominee. Please ensure that your nomination demonstrates that the nominee meets the basic eligibility criteria, as described above, as well as the criteria for that particular category as described below.

Please refer to the frequently asked questions before submitting your nomination.

Please read through the whole nomination form before starting your nomination in order to ensure you have all the required information.

Please note that the judges will not be looking for nominees to meet every point on the second part of the criteria for each category but will look for nominees whose work is excellent against *some* of those criteria.

In January 2015 Beacon will convene independent panels of judges who are experts in philanthropy. These judges will make the final decision about which nominees will be honoured with a Beacon Award.

[Follow this link for frequently asked questions.](#)

**The deadline for submitting a nomination is 5pm on Friday 5 December 2014**

## Categories and criteria

### **Beacon Award for Philanthropy**

*This is the main award category and several winners will be recognised under this category. This category celebrates philanthropists who are changing the world and are inspirational examples of best practice for others to follow.*

#### **Criteria**

The judges will be looking for work that:

- Is inspirational and contains insights and lessons learned that philanthropists will find useful for their own work
  - Has or will inspire systems/policy change
  - Has achieved some success that indicates a strong likelihood of future success and impact
  - Leverages cash with expertise, insight and engagement
  - Has addressed new or emerging needs or addressed long standing needs in a new, innovative and effective way
- And** a combination of *some* of the following:
- Is targeted and intentional
  - Has achieved impact
  - Has been sustained over time
  - Has already involved successful collaboration with other philanthropists or agencies

### **Beacon Award for Outstanding Philanthropic Foundation**

*This award celebrates the work of a foundation, established with private philanthropic wealth (not a corporation or public money), whose work meets the criteria below*

#### **Criteria**

The judges will be looking for work that:

- Is inspirational and contains insights and lessons learned that philanthropists will find useful for their own work
  - Has achieved some success that indicates a strong likelihood of future success and impact
  - Leverages cash with expertise, insight and engagement
  - Has addressed new or emerging needs or addressed long standing needs in a new, innovative and effective way
- And** a combination of *some* of the following:
- Is targeted and intentional
  - Has achieved impact
  - Has been sustained over time
  - Has already involved successful collaboration with other philanthropists or agencies
  - Has or will inspire systems/policy change

## **Beacon Award for an Outstanding Partnership Between a Philanthropist and a Charity**

*This award celebrates excellent collaboration between a philanthropist and a charity that serves as an example of best practice that will inspire others to give well*

### **Criteria**

The judges will be looking for work that:

- Is inspirational and contains insights and lessons learned that philanthropists will find useful for their own work; and
- Has involved successful collaboration between a donor and a charity beyond a transactional relationship
- Has or will inspire systems/policy change
- Has achieved some success that indicates a strong likelihood of future success and impact

**And** a combination of *some* of the following:

- Is targeted and intentional
- Has achieved impact
- Has been sustained over time
- Leverages cash with expertise, insight and engagement
- Has addressed new or emerging needs or addressed long standing needs in a new, innovative and effective way

## **Beacon Award for City Philanthropy**

*To be eligible in this category your nominee must work in the financial, professional or business sectors based in the City of London, Mayfair or Canary Wharf*

*This award celebrates the work of a City philanthropist whose work supports and/or inspires the next generation of City philanthropists.*

### **Criteria**

The judges will be looking for work that:

- Supports and/or inspires the next generation of City philanthropists

**And** a combination of *some* of the following:

- Is targeted and intentional
- Has achieved impact
- Has been sustained over time
- Has already involved successful collaboration with other philanthropists or agencies
- Has or will inspire systems/policy change
- Has achieved some success that indicates a strong likelihood of future success and impact
- Leverages cash with expertise, insight and engagement
- Has addressed new or emerging needs or addressed long standing needs in a new, innovative and effective way

## Beacon Award for Cultural Philanthropy

*This award celebrates the work of an individual, family or small group of individuals working collaboratively whose giving significantly enriches the cultural fabric of society through dedication to the arts and/or heritage.*

### Criteria

The judges will be looking for work that:

- Is inspirational and contains insights and lessons learned that philanthropists will find useful for their own work

**And** a combination of *some* of the following:

- Is targeted and intentional
- Has achieved impact
- Has been sustained over time
- Has already involved successful collaboration with other philanthropists or agencies

- Has or will inspire systems/policy change
- Has achieved some success that indicates a strong likelihood of future success and impact
- Leverages cash with expertise, insight and engagement
- Has addressed new or emerging needs or addressed long standing needs in a new, innovative and effective way

## Beacon Award for Impact Investment

*This award celebrates the work of an individual, family or a small group of individuals working collaboratively, who have addressed social, charitable or environmental challenges while generating a financial return.*

### Criteria

The judges will be looking for work that:

- Is inspirational and contains insights and lessons learned that philanthropists will find useful for their own work; and:
- Has led the way in philanthropically motivated investment

**And** a combination of *some* of the following:

- Is targeted and intentional
- Has achieved impact
- Has been sustained over time
- Has already involved successful collaboration with other philanthropists or agencies

- Has or will inspire systems/policy change
- Has achieved some success that indicates a strong likelihood of future success and impact
- Leverages cash with expertise, insight and engagement
- Has addressed new or emerging needs or addressed long standing needs in a new, innovative and effective way

## **Frequently asked questions**

### **Will Beacon inform my nominee if they do not win?**

This is your choice. Beacon would very much like to write to nominees who do not win congratulating them on being nominated and inviting them to Beacon events including our ideas exchange events for philanthropists. However, we recognise that some nominators would not wish their nominee to know that they had been unsuccessful so we are happy to treat these nominations in strict confidence.

The nomination form asks whether you would like Beacon to contact your nominee in the event that they are unsuccessful, Beacon will respect the wishes you express on the nomination form.

### **Can I nominate a business?**

No, Beacon only gives awards to individuals, families, philanthropic foundations (only in the foundation category) and charities (only in the charity partnership category).

### **Can I nominate someone who has raised money for charity?**

Beacon only gives awards to individuals whose philanthropy is made up of their own personal giving so nominees should be donors themselves.

### **Can I nominate someone who has passed away?**

Beacon does not make posthumous awards.

### **Can I nominate someone whose giving is overseas?**

Yes, a nominee's primary residence needs to be in the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man or Republic of Ireland but their giving can be anywhere in the world.

### **Can I nominate someone who has been nominated for a Beacon Award before?**

Beacon welcomes nominations of philanthropists who have been nominated in previous years. However, philanthropists who have won in previous years are not eligible to win again – see [this page](#) on the Beacon website for a full list of past winners.

### **What should I do if I do not know which category to nominate someone in?**

Nominate them in the category you think is most appropriate. If we think that a nominee is better suited to a different category we will move them so that the judges see everyone in the most appropriate category.

### **Can I nominate myself?**

No, self-nominations are not accepted.

### **What are the judges' special awards for?**

Judges have discretion to make awards to any nominees they think do not fit any of Beacon's categories but whose work is nonetheless in line with Beacon's aim of seeing more and better philanthropy in the UK.

**Who decides which nominees will win an award?**

Beacon assembles panels of independent philanthropy experts to judge the awards. The judging will take place in January 2015.

**Should I say how much money my nominee has given away on the nomination form?**

This information might be helpful to judges so include it if you think it is relevant. However, Beacon Awards are given for the quality (as defined by the judging criteria) of someone's giving not the amount they have given.

If you have questions that are not answered by this document please email [contact@beaconawards.org.uk](mailto:contact@beaconawards.org.uk) or call 0207 713 9326 (option 3)

*The Beacon Awards are managed by [UK Community Foundations](#)*