

San Antonio Conservation Society Publication Awards Criteria 2027

The San Antonio Conservation Society is pleased to announce that nominations are now being accepted for its 2023 Publication Awards. Organized in 1924, the Conservation Society recognizes significant accomplishments in accordance with its purpose, “. . . to preserve and to encourage the preservation of historic buildings, objects, places and customs relating to the history of Texas, its natural beauty and all that is admirably distinctive to our State; and by such physical and cultural preservation to keep the history of Texas legible and intact to educate the public, especially the youth of today and tomorrow, with knowledge of our inherited regional values.”

Purpose

- To encourage the publication of books that preserve, document, and promote the history of Texas by publicly recognizing the creators of such works.

Award

- The authors of the ten books with the highest numeric scores will be awarded framed certificates. A framed certificate will also be awarded to the winning author (if any) in the separate children’s book category. Awards will be presented at the San Antonio Conservation Society Publication Awards ceremony in March 2027.
- Authors will be the primary award recipients, rather than their publishers or other sponsoring organizations. Photographers or illustrators may be publicly recognized but will not receive individual awards.

Requirements

- The competition is open to any printed scholarly or juvenile/young adult book on Texas history or culture that supports the Society’s stated purpose. Pamphlets and articles are not eligible.
- Anyone may nominate a book, including the author, provided he or she submits a nomination form and two copies of the book. All books become the property of the San Antonio Conservation Society Foundation Research Library.
- The book must have a publication date less than three years old at the time of nomination (2024 – 2026). Reissued works are generally not considered unless they offer valuable subject matter that has been unavailable for many years.
- Books that have not won may be nominated more than once if they meet the publication date criteria.
- **Publishers may not submit more than five titles per event.**
- All entrants will be notified by mail during the month of January 2027 as to the decision regarding their nomination(s).

Criteria

- Books nominated for the Preservation Awards will be evaluated in terms of these criteria:
 1. Content related to Society purpose: “. . . to preserve and encourage the preservation of historic buildings, objects, places and customs relating to the history of Texas, its natural beauty and all that is admirably distinctive to our State; and by such physical and cultural preservation, to keep the history of Texas legible and intact to educate the public, especially the youth of today and tomorrow, with knowledge of our inherited regional values.”
 2. Literary quality
 3. Historical significance/importance
 4. Use of primary sources
 5. Originality of approach/subject matter
 6. Preservation of subject matter
 7. Appropriate use of illustrations (photos, maps, drawings, etc.)
 8. Contribution to scholarship or research
 9. Quality and organization of reference aids
 10. Stimulation of reader interest
- Children’s books nominated for the Preservation Awards will be evaluated as a separate category, using the same criteria listed above with the *omission* of criteria 4 (primary sources), 8 (contribution to scholarship) and 9 (reference aids).
 - Only one winner, if any, will be named in the children’s category.

We welcome your selection(s) for our consideration. Please send two copies of the book you wish to nominate, accompanied by the nomination form, to:

**Attn: Publication Awards
San Antonio Conservation Society
1146 S. Alamo Street
San Antonio, Texas 78210**

If you have any questions, please contact librarian Beth Standifird by phone at 210-224-6163 or e-mail bstandifird@saconservation.org. **Your nominated publications must be received at the Society headquarters on or before 4:00 PM, Friday, May 22, 2026.**