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**Back In The Day Award** 

Hereby Presented To

For Most Nostalgic

Presented By



On This Day



**Adobe** 

LARRY WEAVER

# 101 Formand Careficates

### LARRY WEAVER



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### **101 Funny Awards Certificates – 2nd Edition**

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### **How to Use this Book**

Consult this section for tips, tricks, and troubleshooting advice...

The certificates in this PDF are set to work on standard 8.5 x 11 inch paper. You do not need special certificate paper to make them look nice. Regular paper will work fine, although you may want to use a thicker paper or glossy stock to make the certificate look more professional and last longer.

You can print these certificates on any regular printer. To avoid printing the entire PDF, write down the page numbers you want to print ahead of time.

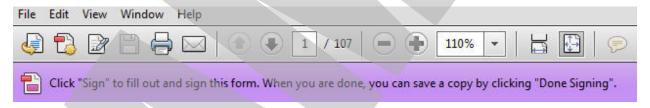
### **How to complete the certificates**

You can customize each certificate by hand-writing it after it's printed out or by typing directly into the PDF using the latest *free* edition of Adobe Reader.

If you're having any issues at all, make sure you're using the latest version of Adobe Reader. Go back to the page entitled "Read this Before Proceeding" directly after the title page and follow the instructions.

### How to sign and date the certificates

To sign and date the certificates, simply click above the lines and type your information. Do not use Adobe Reader's "Signature Tool". Just ignore any prompts that say "Signature field(s) detected".



If you see this message, just ignore it.

### **How to change the font selection**

Using Adobe Reader, you can change some of the font selections. To do so, you will need to display the "Form Field Text Properties" menu. If you don't already see the menu, click "View > Toolbars > Properties" in the Adobe Reader menu to display "Form Field Text Properties" and then click on any form field to display and change the font selection.

### How to print the file remotely

Printing these certificates in color will definitely make them look more professional. If you do not have a color printer, save the PDF to a thumb drive and take the file to a local copy shop or office supply store with a color printer.



### How to copy and paste the certificates into PowerPoint

There are several easy methods for copying and pasting the awards into PowerPoint or other applications. Try the "Print Screen" key on your keyboard. If you hold down the ALT key (on Windows) while hitting Print Screen, you will select just the open window. Paste the certificate into PowerPoint and use the crop tool to make any adjustments.

If you have Windows 8, 7 or (heavens forbid) Vista, there is a great free tool already installed called "Snipping Tool" (most likely under Start > All Program > Accessories). This free screen capture tool is perfect for copying and pasting the certificates. If you need a more robust screen capture tool, I highly recommend Snagit by Techsmith.

### How to use certificate jackets, frames and plaques

A certificate folder, also known as a certificate jacket or certificate holder, is a low-cost way to really dress up your funny awards presentation. Made of paper, they come in various colors and prices.

The brand most widely available is Southworth, who makes both jackets (folders) and holders. At least for Southworth, the difference is:

- **certificate folder** = **certificate** jacket and has a front and back flap (like a file folder),
- **certificate holder** typically only has a backing (mounted like a picture frame).

You can purchase a certificate jacket at your local office supply store or Amazon.com for close to one dollar each. They typically come in packs of either 5 or 10. Just go to Amazon.com and search for "Southworth certificate jackets".

The certificate jacket makes the award look great even if your color printer isn't the best or you don't have good quality paper for your certificate.

To take it up another notch, use a **certificate frame** (similar to a picture frame — and some picture frames will work nicely). You can also purchase **plaques** that allow you to slide the certificate right in. These methods will ensure your certificates will continue to bring laughs for years to come.



Southworth certificate folder



Picture frame



### Introduction

You can skip this section if you're easily bored...

This work grew from my first endeavor, "Funny Employee Awards". The purpose of "Funny Employee Awards" was to create awards that managers and bosses could give to employees, volunteers or staff without embarrassing the recipients or getting into trouble with Human Resources.

But what about awards to give family, friends, and teammates? That's where this book comes in. No worries about getting into trouble with HR here. Let the barbs fly!

### **Acknowledgements**

Anyone who's tried to create their own funny awards knows that coming up with ideas is the toughest part. I was fortunate to make some incredibly talented life-long friends while attending the University of North Carolina.

One of my long-time collaborators Reed Tucker is now a features editor at the *New York Post*. His help has been invaluable. Also thanks to my long-time friends and writing partners from Selected Hilarity comedy group: Andy Bagwell, Scott Brown, David Drake, and Bryan Tucker. They've helped me with so many projects over the years, and I can't thank them enough. Check out our hilarious and *mostly* safe-for-work videos at <a href="https://www.selectedHilarity.com">www.selectedHilarity.com</a>

Graphic design guru Ted Hobgood supplied the colorful certificates designs and cover. Ted and I also collaborated on *Tributes: Remembering Some of the World's Greatest Wrestlers*, which is still available at bookstores Worldwide.

Other contributors include my wife Mariana, Adam Bianchi, Marc Gainey, and the creative and inventive visitors to www.FunAwards.com.

Finally, thank **you** for purchasing the Awards. I truly hope these awards bring you much laughter and many great memories.



### **Presenting the Awards**

Learn how to make your awards presentation memorable...

Make your awards ceremony as grand or as modest as you like. It doesn't matter. In this case, it's all about getting together and having a good time.

Before the event, line up an emcee to keep the show flowing. If your budget allows, hire a professional comedian to host the awards ceremony. Have the comedian perform a short stand-up set before handing out the Awards. It will be just like having your own Oscar party!

If you don't want to hire a professional comedian, ask someone who's personable or well-liked to handle the duties.

### **Classic Presentation**

In the traditional award presentation you announce the award first and then announce the winner. This works well in large groups with a formal awards ceremony. The pomp and circumstance that goes along with creating your own awards show really makes for an unforgettable event.

### **Alternate Presentation**

An alternate way to present the awards is to announce the winner first, and then reveal the award. This works great for smaller groups or more informal gatherings. Get the winner in front of the group with a round of applause ("This next award goes to Troy Wahl!"). Then lead into a funny story or unique characteristic about that person. Finally, reveal the name of the award for the big payoff. A simple exchange may go like this:

"Troy, you're known around here for a lot of things [this buildup alone may elicit laughter]. But perhaps you're best known for your inability to stay focused for more than two seconds. So we're proud to present you with this prestigious award, The ADD Award for most likely to be distracted by – look, something shiny!"

You can also switch back and forth between classic and alternate presentation styles. Use whichever method works best for your situation.

Insider Tip:

Keep everything, from the opening remarks to the acceptance speeches, short. The event should move along at a crisp pace.



### **Presentation Ideas**

Use these low-cost touches to make your awards show truly memorable:

- Set up a red carpet outside the meeting space (check your local remnant store for deals).
- Station a photographer to pose as paparazzi as guests arrive.
- Serve "mocktails" to make the evening festive.
- Have a professional comedian or someone funny serve as the emcee for the event.
- A customized PowerPoint presentation with the winners' photos makes a big impact.
- Hook your laptop into the sound system and play music as people come up to accept the awards.
- Get a photographer to take pictures of all the winners as they accept their awards. Everyone loves pictures of themselves!

Insider Tip:

Have an assistant. Let the emcee stick to emceeing and have an assistant help with handing out the certificates. A well-paced awards ceremony is a two-person job.

### **Hiring a Comedian**

If you're going to hire a comedian to emcee your event, be sure to find an act that's both clean and experienced at events similar to yours.

You'll need an act with wide appeal that won't offend anyone in the audience. After all, if the performer offends your crowd, it doesn't reflect well on you or your organization!

The reason I prefer clean comedians is simple: a performer that can be funny without vulgar language or innuendo can be a hit in any environment! So no matter what type of event you're planning, you basically can't go wrong with a funny comedian who keeps their show clean.

Insider Tip:

Pick up a FREE copy of "How to Hire Comedians" at www.larryweaver.com/comedians



### **Choosing the Recipients**

How to figure out who gets an award...

If you've got a small group, it's fine for everyone in attendance to get a funny award. But if you have more than 25 or so potential recipients, you may not want to hand out awards to everyone. Remember: you want things to move along at a crisp pace.

So how do you know who's going to get an award?

First, put together a selection committee of 2-3 people who know most everyone in your group. The key is not to do this alone. You need a group to suss out the recipients' vulnerabilities and personalities. Something you might consider hilarious, they might consider offensive.

A committee also protects you from shouldering all of the responsibility should something go wrong. If something falls flat, you have the comfort of knowing you ran it past your committee.



Give awards to your audience members that have the best sense of humor.

When picking awards, remember that the intent here is to

have fun — not to embarrass. Make sure you have the biggest characters in the office covered. The awards ceremony will only be as good as the winners, and an event filled with boring acceptance speeches won't be much fun for anyone.

Again — and I can't stress this enough — only give the funny awards to those with a sense of humor who don't have any problem poking fun at themselves. You don't want to turn into Michael Scott from *The Office*.

Insider Tip:

One method that works well is to make a list of everyone you'd like to give awards to, and then find an award that's suitable from the list of options.



### **Tipping People Off Ahead of Time**

If you're worried at all that your award may embarrass the winner, you can always tip that person off ahead of time. It won't ruin the presentation. Remember, the idea is to create an entertaining presentation for the entire audience – not just to surprise one person.

Telling the winner ahead of time will allow that person to voice any objections, and will give them time to prepare a funny speech if they choose to do so. Everyone else will still be surprised and entertained when the award winner is announced, and you won't have to worry about any potential awkward moments!

### **Ideas For The Really Tough Ones**

Let's say you want to give an award to everyone, but there's one person with no sense of humor that you can't think of anything good to say about. What do you do?

Start by thinking about their hobbies or interests. Are they a huge sports fan? Do they love their dog? Are they nuts about knitting? If the answer to any of these is "yes", you're in business. Just give them an award that acknowledges their passion: Biggest Syracuse Football Fan, Best Dog Lover (well, maybe reword that a bit), Best at Needlepoint. It might not be hilarious, but it gets them an award without mentioning any personal characteristics.

You can also award their environment. Think about their desk, chair, office, etc. Give an award for Neatest Desk, Brightest Workspace, or Most Inviting Office. Here again, you've given an award to someone without bringing up any personal traits.

Mission accomplished.

Insider Tip:

I've emceed events where the hosts wanted to give out 50 awards. It would have taken all night to call everyone up on stage one-by-one. Instead, I picked the 15 funniest award and had fun with those folks. Throughout the presentation, I read off the other 45 awards and left the certificates up front for folks to pick up on their way out.

### **Using The Ballot Form**

The two-page ballot form in this PDF allows you to collect input without ruining the surprise of the award name. Print out the two-page ballot form in this PDF to easily collect votes. Or copy and paste the text from the ballot form into a Word document or email for ease of distribution. Note that the award numbers correspond to the page numbers in this PDF.



### **Creating Your Own Awards**

Can't find just the right award in this collection? Here are some ideas for coming up with you own...

We've made it easy to modify existing awards and create your own awards to add laughter to any high school reunion, family reunion, or party. Two popular formats are superlatives and "most likely to" awards.

**Superlatives** are most often definitive statements such as most popular, friendliest, or best smile. By definition, a superlative simply means being the extreme degree of comparison of an adjective or adverb, as in best or brightest. In other words, something of the highest possible excellence.

A classic list of superlatives includes biggest geek (or nerd), most likely to succeed, biggest flirt, most popular, class clown, most talkative, quietest, and biggest partier.

**Most Likely to Awards** typically take the format of "most likely to...", but you can also twist them into "least likely to..." Once a mainstay in high school yearbooks, a classic list of Most Likely to Awards includes:

- most likely to succeed
- most likely to get married
- most likely to become President
- most likely to end up in jail
- most likely to become a supermodel
- most likely to be remembered
- most likely to be forgotten

Flip the wording around and now you have doubled your list of awards:

- least likely to succeed
- least likely to get married
- least likely to become President
- least likely to end up in jail
- least likely to become a supermodel
- least likely to be remembered
- least likely to be forgotten

### Insider Tip:

Here are a couple of good ideas if you come up for a great reason for an award, but can't think of a funny title: 1) leave the title area blank and just write in the reason, or 2) write in "Award Certificate" in the title field.



### **Special Occasions and Holidays to Give Awards**

Use the included blank templates for making up your own awards for holidays and special occasions. Here are a few occasions worth noting on your calendar:

- Employee Appreciation Day first Friday of the month of March
- Fun at Work Day April 1
- Volunteer Recognition Day April 20
- Administrative Professionals Day Wednesday of the last full week of April
- Teacher Appreciation Day Tuesday of the first full week of May
- National Nurses Day May 6
- Pastor Appreciation Day second Sunday in October
- Boss's Day October 16
- Education Support Professionals Day November TBD

### **Share Your Ideas!**

If you have ideas for funny awards or would like to share pictures of your awards, please share:

Email <u>larry@funawards.com</u>

Facebook http://www.facebook.com/funny.awards

Twitter <a href="http://twitter.com/funawards">http://twitter.com/funawards</a> (@funawards)

And subscribe to our YouTube channel for tutorials and the latest product updates:

YouTube <a href="http://www.youtube.com/user/funawards">http://www.youtube.com/user/funawards</a>



### **Award Nominees**

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17. gives unwanted advice	48. [HIDDEN]
18. tightly wound	49. [HIDDEN]
19. keeps secrets	50. [HIDDEN]
20. nostalgic	51. [HIDDEN]
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22. shows off	53. [HIDDEN]
23. gets distracted easily	54. [HIDDEN]
24. comes through in the clutch	55. [HIDDEN]
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## **About the Author**

Larry Weaver is a professional comedian, entertainment booking agent, and creator of the Fun Awards Show.



Larry grew up in the tiny mill village of Saxapahaw, NC, and started performing at a young age. After majoring in accounting at the University of North Carolina, he left his CPA dreams behind to tour across America with improv comedy group **Selected Hilarity**.

He went on to share the stage with "Weird Al" Yankovic, Faith Hill, Ray Romano, and Chris Rock – just to name a few.

Upon going solo, Larry released three CDs of funny songs and commercial parodies. These albums spawned such morning radio hits as "Grandpa's Gone Gangsta" and "Ghost in the Trailer," a hilarious tale about a family terrorized by a redneck ghost.

In his comedy show, Larry jokes about growing up in the South, marriage, junk food, household insects, and more. Good, clean fun!

Over the past 20 years, Larry has performed well over 1,000 live shows for corporate events, colleges, Chamber of Commerce banquets, churches, comedy clubs and conferences across 37 states.

Larry launched Larry Weaver Entertainment booking agency to capitalize on his growing success. The company has a stellar reputation across the United States for providing 100% clean comedians and funny speakers for corporate meetings and special events.

To contact Larry Weaver, call (919) 926-8649 or e-mail larry@funawards.com



## **Hire Larry to Host Your Own Fun Awards Show!**

You've got the book; now take your recognition ceremony to the next level! Have your very own Awards Show gala hosted by a professional comedian.

Just like a real Awards show, the event begins with the host performing an opening stand-up comedy routine. You'll get clean jokes appropriate for your company or organization.

The fun kicks into an even higher gear as the Awards show portion begins. Watch the hilarity unfold as your host hands out funny awards that will have your whole audience laughing.

Recognize that member who takes the last cup of coffee, is always losing paperwork, or can never be found

The comedian will present the awards with customized material written just for your group and audience members. Preselect the biggest "characters" from your group for an unforgettable presentation.

Perfect for: employee awards programs, office parties, teacher banquets, volunteer recognition, staff appreciation, family reunions, church functions, or any event that could use an interactive and fun presentation!

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Find out more at: www.FunAwards.com/Show

















"Great show! We loved it!"

— Marshville Chamber

"Out of this world... Awesome!"

— Johnson Primary School

"The entire room was roaring with laughter!"

— Conestoga Wood

## **Also by Larry Weaver**

Like this book? You'll love these others by Larry Weaver...



## **101 Funny Employee Awards**

The original that started it all! Now in its 4th edition, these awards have brought laughs around the Globe. They were carefully crafted not to get you fired or written up by human resources. Appropriate for any employee, volunteer or staff member, no matter the type of business.

www.funawards.com/employee-awards



## **101 Funny Office Awards**

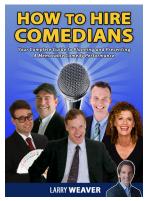
These awards are similar to "101 Funny Employee Award", but they are specifically for those who toil away in cubicles and offices. Computers, software, break rooms, desks, office gossip — it's all covered. These are a tad bit more snarky and cynical, too. Not for the easily offended! www.funawards.com/office-awards



## **101 Funny Teacher Awards**

Simply put, these awards are good-natured fun. Almost all of the certificates fall under the heading of "job well done". Show teachers you appreciate their hard work, long hours, and tidy classrooms. The awards are chock full of science, literary, and historical references.

www.funawards.com/teacher-awards



## **How to Hire Comedians**

The definitive guide to planning, preparing, and presenting the perfect comedy show! You'll get you step-by-step guidance on: assessing your entertainment needs, setting your comedy budget, understanding the contract, preparing for the performance, and presenting the show.

www.larryweaver.com/comedians



## **Why Funny Awards Certificates?**

Anyone who's tried to create their own funny awards knows that coming up with ideas is the toughest part. Inside you'll find 101 funny printable certificates along with tips on organizing an entertaining awards ceremony. These exclusive Funny Award Certificates were written by professional touring comedian Larry Weaver along with a features editor from the *New York Post* and an Emmy® nominated writer from *Saturday Night Live!* The awards are perfect for volunteer recognition, family reunions, sports functions, or any event that could use some good-natured fun!

## **About the Author**

Larry Weaver is a professional comedian and creator of Funny Awards. For over 20 years, Larry has delighted audiences across America with a mix of down-home tales and clean, original comedy. He has performed over 1,000 shows at comedy clubs, colleges and corporate events in 36 states, and has shared the stage with entertainment legends Chris Rock, Ray Romano, Faith Hill, "Weird Al" Yankovic, and many others. You may have heard him on *Blue Collar Radio* or *Laugh USA* on Sirius XM Radio. To see more of the work Larry does, or to contact him, visit www.FunAwards.com



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