

on for judging. There is no fee to enter submissions. Each restaurant needs ONLY one nomination in each category to be considered. Duplicate nominations will be deemed ineligible.

How to Nominate

Nominations are submitted online only through the nominations website.

Site users will first be asked to create a login and password to use for all your submissions. The user name and password are unique to the nominator, not to the restaurant. If you have a login from the previous year, you can login with the same username and password, or follow the prompts to reset the password if you cannot remember.

Site users will have access to their unique portal to view what submissions they need to finish and what has been submitted as complete. Once submitted as complete, submissions cannot be changed.

Please submit accurate and fact-based information as required.

It is recommended that restaurants enter submissions for any and all categories for which they are eligible for the best chance at becoming a finalist in a category.

Why Nominate?

We often hear from members, "Why do I need to nominate my restaurant? Won't RAMW include me as a member in the nominations even if I don't enter submissions?"

Good question. The judges will consider all restaurants and companies for RAMMYS nominations who are RAMW members in good standing. However, there is no guarantee that the judges will add your restaurant to the running for a specific category if you do not self-nominate. The nominations process is a key step in the RAMMY Awards wherein members tell the judges what categories they think they are most eligible for and would like to be considered. It helps the judges understand that your establishment

prefers to identify as Upscale Casual instead of Formal Fine Dining, for example. It is also a step during which much critical information is collected, such as how long a restaurant has been open, how long your chef or pastry chef has worked in the DC region, who your 2017 RAMMYS contact should be for this restaurant, and who your current PR team might be. If you are hoping to be considered for the Awards, it is essential that your establishment submits nominations.

Changes to Categories for 2017

Key changes were made this year to the eligibility requirements in several categories to better represent a full year and picture of the Washington, DC regional dining scene.

- First, the New Restaurant of the Year category extends its time frame to include restaurants that opened between December 1, 2015 and December 31, 2016.
- Similarly, all the categories that previously had a December 1 cutoff (i.e. must have opened by December 1, 2016 to be eligible) are now extended to December 31, 2016.
- For the Neighborhood Gathering Place category, the previous requirement that the restaurant must have been in operation for 5 years, changes to 2 years in operation to be eligible.
- The Regional Food and Beverage Producer category will now be voted on by the RAMW restaurant membership, instead of the judges panel.
- And finally, four categories received changes to their category names. Everyday Casual Restaurant and Everyday Casual Brunch have been updated to Casual Restaurant and Casual Brunch. Similarly, Upscale Casual Brunch is now simply Upscale Brunch.

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