

## Jose Honors

The José Honors was founded in 1997 by Empress Nicole the Great, as a tribute to Empress José and to ensure that her legacy lives on for a very long time. This is the highest award given to members of the International Courts System for outstanding accomplishments within the Courts System and in the larger community they live in. Each year, the Jose Honors also recognizes an individual member Court for outstanding service.

The first José Honors was held in San Diego, which sets the tone for all subsequent awards dinner. Empress Nicole commissioned a local gay artist to create a bust in honor of Empress José, which served as the award presented to recipients of this prestigious honor. As the first Host Committee, The Imperial Court de San Diego underwrote the cost of producing the busts and medallions, for the first several awards ceremonies. The José Honors is traditionally held on the Friday before the coronation of the host Court and is always a formal dinner event.

Empress Nicole appointed past Heir Apparent Empress Jessica St. John of Dallas, Texas as the first President of the José Honors Board of Governors, and several other Heirs as members of the Board. The José Honors Board of Governors was established as an independent committee under the tutelage of Empress Nicole as Founder; and the International Court Council serves as the fiscal sponsor of the awards. The function of the Board of Governors is to organize and facilitate the nomination process, and serve as liaison with the Host Court. They also ensure that the tradition of the José Honors is maintained at the highest standard possible. The final selections of the José Honorees are the sole responsibility of Empress Nicole, in consultation with Empress José. Empress Coco LaChine took over as President of the Board in 2001 and continues to serve on this position.

In 2004, due to the high cost of producing the awards dinner and to maintain the prestigious nature of the José Honors, it was decided that the José Honors will be presented every two years.



### Your Majesties and Fellow Courtiers,

On behalf of Empress Nicole the Great, Founder of the José Honors and Empress I Jose, Founder of the International Court System, I would like to announce that the next José Honors will be held in March, 2014 in New York City, NY.

The José Honors seeks to recognize members of the International Court System for their outstanding accomplishments within their respective Court families and throughout their broader community. The José Honors Board of Governors requests that all ICS members consider the nomination of your peers for this distinct honor -**any member of the Court community at any peerage level is eligible to be nominated.**

It is important to note that the José Honors is not a competition, and each nominee will be considered based on their own merits.

Nominations must include all of the following:

- A detailed biography of the nominee including Court and community service, as well as special recognition, accomplishments and awards.
- A condensed version of the biography (approx. 750 words) for the printed program.
- Contact information for the nominee and those submitting the nomination, including email addresses.
- A publish-ready quality photo (headshot) of the nominee. Image must be of high resolution (300 DPI) and scanned in Jpeg or Tiff format.
- 3-5 Letters of commendation supporting the nomination, including individual and/or group recommendations. Board nominations and recommendations from other community organizations are highly welcomed.
- In the case of nominations submitted in previous years, a new nomination packet must be submitted.

Also to be awarded that evening will be the ICS Court of Distinction. All nominations should include a brief Court History, details of Court accomplishments in the areas of fundraising, education, community outreach and services, programs (scholarships, grants, etc.) and volunteer services. Please include all honors, awards and commendations received. Nomination packet must also include list of your governing board and primary contact information, copies of articles of incorporation, tax-exempt/charitable organization status (or its equivalent), and a clear, high-resolution image of your Court logo in Jpeg or Tiff format.