

# Pioneer Award

Please attach this form to your one page nomination for AAPL Pioneer Award summarizing: **1) Significant impact to the land profession with a distinct contribution; 2) Only one award per year to be presented; 3) No regional awards; 4) No minimum age or work requirement; 5) could be posthumously; 6) Open to groups or companies, not just individuals. (Can be non-members)** To be presented to an individual, group or company who at any time has significantly impacted the land profession with a fundamentally distinct contribution. Current Executive Committee members may not be submitted, and self-nominations will not be considered.

NAME OF NOMINEE/COMPANY/GROUP: \_\_\_\_\_

LOCAL ASSOCIATION AFFILIATION (If applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

NOMINATED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

## Pioneer Award

Although not a Landman, Le'Ann Pembroke Callihan changed the energy industry as a leader of the largest Landman association in the world. She started working at the American Association of Professional Landmen (AAPL) and NAPE (fka North American Prospect Expo), in 1989 as an intern. She later graduated from Texas Christian University in 1990 and she is purple through and through. She has served, and been associated with, the inaugural NAPE event since 1993. Today, she oversees NAPE operations as well as AAPL's strategic initiatives in innovation and excellence.

Le'Ann launched NAPE — The Magazine for Dealmakers, added the Renewable Energy Pavilion, implemented the NAPE Network online platform, and helped raise more than \$5 million for the NAPE Expo Charities Fund. She was also recently inducted into the NAPE Hall of Fame.



She is active in the North Texas Chapter of the Women's Energy Network, where she has served on the board of directors and is currently an executive member, leading a mentor group for the organization's Fort Worth circle. In 2021 she joined the board of advisors for the TCU Neeley School of Business Ralph Lowe Energy Institute and was appointed vice chair of the Valley View Education Foundation and was a D CEO magazine 2021 Energy Awards finalist in the Energy Services & Technology Executive of the Year category.

It's not just the impact she has made on the energy industry, it's also her consistent presence which DAPL recognizes and celebrates. Anyone who has served on a volunteer committee for AAPL or NAPE has heard or used the phrase, "I don't know, let me check with Le'Ann." and it's because of her incredible institutional knowledge that she has acquired for nearly 35 years. In the words of people that work with her daily, "she is a trendsetter, innovator, experience architect, champion and gamechanger". To keep it simple, she is a pioneer.

Quotes from Le'Ann in a recent Oil and Gas Investor Magazine Interview:

On Energy family

"Although I was not pursuing a career in energy, my PaPa had worked for Sun Oil Co. and through his success purchased our family ranch, where we now live, and the legacy he built continues to bless his grandchildren, great-grandchildren and now even great-great-grandchildren.

"After I started working for AAPL [in 1989] and meeting the wonderful people in the association who worked in the land and energy industry, I began to realize the importance of energy and loved learning about it and seeing the positive impact E&P players have on our economy and our American quality of life. Once I began serving the AAPL membership as a staff member, I knew I had found my work family—and to do that so early on in my career is something for which I am very grateful."

## On helping to build NAPE

“I had the privilege of being on the advisory board when the North American Prospect Expo debuted in 1993. Against all odds, we launched the first oil and gas prospect expo, creating a central marketplace where buyers and sellers could come together in one location to make deals happen. Our first NAPE hosted about 100 exhibitors and 800 attendees. Today, NAPE is the world’s largest prospect expo serving more than 12,000 energy professionals each year.

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“To be a part of the NAPE phenomenon has been an incredible journey. We have added many components to the original show including the NAPE Expo Charities Fund, which has donated more than \$5 million to veterans’ organizations supporting our American military heroes. I personally am proud of fostering two deals with a group of anonymous energy producers for a total donation of \$2 million to our NAPE Charities Fund.”

## On experience and wisdom

“I have been fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with 30 different presidents of AAPL and chairmen of NAPE who are all leaders in the industry. They all have different leadership styles and ranges in career paths, from independents to majors, and each one taught me valuable lessons about leadership and business. Specifically, Leon Hirsch, Steve Wentworth, Harold J. Anderson, Mike Curry, the late Jan van Loon, Jeanine Piskurich and Hellen Reasoner Hutchison have all mentored me in my journey. I also view Barry Russell, who recently retired as president of IPAA, as one of my mentors. ... [Additionally], AAPL’s Linda Wirt took me under her wing and was always willing to share her experience and wisdom with me.”

## On the ‘Energy expansion’

“The importance of the industry to the American economy, our national security and the quality of our everyday lives keeps me motivated and passionate. We are the industry that helps power the world! I believe we should approach the ‘energy transition’ as an ‘energy expansion’ and embrace all energy sources and the benefits from them. We must be inclusive and work together for the greater good of our industry, country and world.”