



2025 Marshall Public Leadership Awards Nomination Packet



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Congratulations on your nomination. This packet includes important dates and next steps as well as information and resources about General George C. Marshall, the namesake of this award.

If you have any questions, please contact
The Historic Trust
Phone: 360-992-1800
Website: thehistorictrust.org
Address:
750 Anderson St.,
Vancouver, WA 98660

Congratulations! You have been nominated for the **2025 Marshall Public Leadership Award**. The Marshall Leadership Awards celebrate and support local rising leaders who, like General George C. Marshall, demonstrate integrity, candor, courage, and preparedness while serving a greater good.

Public Leadership Award recipients receive a \$3,500 scholarship to be used toward advanced education or professional development of the recipient's choice. All finalists are recognized at the award ceremony on **Thursday, February 27, 2025**. All nominees are invited to a free leadership workshop led by local leaders on **Saturday, January 11, 2025**.

To be considered for the award, please complete the candidate application and submit a letter of recommendation. **Candidate forms are due by 5 p.m., Tuesday, January 21, 2025**. Please see the accompanying email for the link to the application.

Please review the key dates and let us know if you have any scheduling conflicts. We would like to work with you to ensure that you have the best opportunity to participate in these wonderful leadership experiences.

2025 KEY DATES

January 11, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. **Marshall Leadership Workshop at the Artillery Barracks**
600 E Hatheway Rd, Vancouver, WA 98661

While the event is optional, you are encouraged to attend the Marshall Leadership Workshop. During this fun, interactive day you will learn more about General Marshall and hear from local leaders about their experiences. This is an opportunity for you to connect with prominent leaders in our community, network with past Marshall Award Recipients, and learn about General George C. Marshall.

January 21 **Candidate Applications and Letter of Recommendation DUE**

Early February **Finalists are chosen and will be notified by email.**

February 7 **Finalist Interviews at the Marshall House**

If you are selected as a finalist, you will be contacted by Trust staff to schedule your 30-minute interview with the selection committee.

February 27, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. **Marshall Leadership Awards at the Artillery Barracks**
600 E Hatheway, Vancouver, WA 98661

If you have any questions, please contact us at carol.ross@thehistorictrust.org or via phone at (360) 992-1800. Please RSVP to carol.ross@thehistorictrust.org by **January 3** for the **January 11 Workshop**.

Again, congratulations, and we look forward to meeting you in the coming weeks.



GENERAL GEORGE C. MARSHALL'S PRINCIPLES OF LEADERSHIP



1. **DO THE RIGHT THING:** THE PRINCIPLE OF INTEGRITY
2. **MASTERING THE SITUATION:** THE PRINCIPLE OF ACTION
3. **SERVE THE GREATER GOOD:** THE PRINCIPLE OF SELFLESSNESS
4. **SPEAK YOUR MIND:** THE PRINCIPLE OF CANDOR
5. **LAY THE GROUNDWORK:** THE PRINCIPLE OF PREPARATION
6. **SHARE KNOWLEDGE:** THE PRINCIPLE OF LEARNING AND TEACHING
7. **CHOOSE AND REWARD THE RIGHT PEOPLE:** THE PRINCIPLE OF FAIRNESS
8. **FOCUS ON THE BIG PICTURE:** THE PRINCIPLE OF VISION
9. **SUPPORT THE TROOPS:** THE PRINCIPLE OF CARING



George C. Marshall Leadership Awards Recommended Reading List

*These resources are NOT required reading. They are simply intended to introduce you to Marshall's history, philosophy of leadership and lasting impact.

Online Resources

[*"George C. Marshall: An Enduring Lesson in Leadership Effectiveness"*](#)

[*Baker, Kevin – America's Finest General*](#)

[*Saltman, David – George C. Marshall: The George Washington of the 20th Century*](#)

[*Tipton, Jeffery-- George C. Marshall: The Essential Strategic Leader*](#)

[*The George C. Marshall Foundation*](#)

Books and e-books available at Fort Vancouver Regional Library

Roll, David – General George C. Marshall: Defender of the Republic

Unger, Debi – General George C Marshall: A Biography

Jeffers, H. Paul – Marshall: Lessons in Leadership

Kurtz-Phelan, Daniel – The China Mission: George Marshall's Unfinished War

Groom, Winston – The Generals: Patton, MacArthur, Marshall and the Winning of World War II

General George C. Marshall

Biography

George Catlett Marshall was born December 31, 1880, in Uniontown, Pennsylvania. He died October 16, 1959, in Washington, D.C. He was General of the Army and U.S. Army Chief of Staff during World War II (1939-45). He later served as U.S. Secretary of State (1947-49) and Secretary of Defense (1950-1951). The European Recovery Program he proposed in 1947 became known as the Marshall Plan. He received the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1953. He once said that war is “the most terrible tragedy of the human race,” and led an exemplary life that was dedicated to the service of his country and fellow Americans. He is remembered for his outstanding leadership and incredible humanitarian work.

Early Life and Military Career

Marshall entered the Virginia Military Institute in 1897. After a poor beginning, he steadily improved his record and soon showed proficiency in military subjects. Once he had decided on a military career, he concentrated on leadership and ended his last year at the institute as first captain of the corps of cadets.

Marshall finished college in 1901. After receiving his commission as second lieutenant of infantry in February 1902, he embarked for 18 months of service in the Philippines. In those early years, Marshall developed the rigid self-discipline, habits of study, and attributes of command that eventually brought him to the top of his profession. Men who served under him spoke of his quiet self-confidence, his lack of flamboyance, his talent for presenting his case to both soldiers and civilians, and his ability to make his subordinates want to do their best.

Somewhat aloof in manner, he seemed to some acquaintances cold by nature, but he had both a fierce temper which he held under careful control and a great affection and warmth for those close to him.

Service in World War I

After his service in the Philippines from 1902–1903, he advanced steadily through the ranks, ultimately becoming General of the Army in December 1944. In World War I, he served as Chief of Operations of the 1st Division, the first division to go to France in 1917, and then as the Chief of Operations of the First Army during the Battles of the Meuse Argonne in 1918.

Time in Vancouver, WA

Following a promotion to Brigadier General, Marshall was assigned to command the Vancouver Barracks in Washington State. He remained at this post for two years, living in what is now known as the Marshall House. During his time in Vancouver, he oversaw the Civilian Conservation Corps in the Pacific Northwest. In 1937, he also welcomed Valery Chkalov into the Marshall House following his emergency landing at Pearson Airfield after 63 hours of flight, the first transpolar flight. Marshall and his family cared for Chkalov and his copilots until they could return to Moscow. The Marshall House is cared for by The Historic Trust and remains a pillar of historic preservation in Vancouver, as well as a place where General Marshall's legacy is maintained.

World War II

Marshall was sworn in as Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army on September 1, 1939, the same day World War II began in Europe. For the next six years, Marshall directed the raising of new divisions, the training of troops, the development of new weapons and equipment, and the selection of top commanders. Under his direction, the U.S. Army expanded in less than four years to a well-trained and well-equipped force of 8,300,000. He helped recruit, train, and equip the largest ground and air force in the history of the United States. Marshall led the fight for an Allied drive on German forces across the English Channel. So valuable was his service to President Franklin D. Roosevelt that he was kept on at the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, D.C. while command over the Normandy Invasion was given to General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Diplomatic Career and Later Life

In January 1947, Marshall was appointed Secretary of State. In June of that year, he proposed the European Recovery Program. The program became known as the Marshall Plan and implemented major economic reforms in European countries for rebuilding the economy after the devastation caused by the war. The plan was implemented in 1948, and the next four years saw the fastest period of growth in European history.

Also significant during his time as Secretary were the provision of aid to Greece and Turkey and initial discussions that led to the establishment of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Marshall left his position because of ill health in 1949. Then in 1950, when Marshall was nearly 70, Truman called him to the post of Secretary of Defense, in which he helped prepare the armed forces for the Korean War by increasing troop strength, materiel production, and raising morale.

After 1951, Marshall remained on the active-duty list as the highest-ranking General of the Army, available for consultation by the government. In 1953, he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in recognition of his contributions to the economic rehabilitation of Europe after World War II and his efforts to promote world peace and understanding. He also wrote for Encyclopedia Britannica that year, summarizing the impact of World War II and highlighting the pivotal role played in the war by the United States.

Retiring in 1951 from his position as Secretary of Defense, General Marshall spent the last few years of his life with his family in Virginia, only to be called upon to lead the American delegation at the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953. That same year, British Parliament established The Marshall Scholarship for American post-graduates looking to study in the United Kingdom. The scholarship program continues to this day. General Marshall passed away at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C. on October 16, 1959. He was 78.

Organizations like the Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission, The Marshall Foundation, and The Historic Trust all work to ensure Marshall's legacy of leadership and care for fellow people continues.

Sources:

George C. Marshall: Interviews and Reminiscences for Forrest C. Pogue. Marshall, George C., Forrest C. Pogue, and Larry I. Bland. G.C. Marshall Research Foundation, 1996.

Marshall Speech to the American Legion convention, Sept. 18, 1944, GCM Papers, 4: 592. "Quotes," The George C. Marshall Foundation, March 29, 2022, <https://www.marshallfoundation.org/life-legacy/quotes/>.