



NATIONAL
SERVICE ANIMALS
MONUMENT

*Honoring All Service Animals
and Their Handlers*

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Susan Bahary, official sculptor for the National Service Animals Monument project, named “Dogs’ Best Friend” by Annual Kennel Club of Philadelphia

Susan Bahary, who was recently named the Sculptor of Record for the National Service Animals Monument, Inc., is the recipient of the 2022 Dogs’ Best Friend Award by the Kennel Club of Philadelphia.

“Having Susan Bahary, a world-renowned artist as our official sculptor for the planned Memorial in Washington, D.C., is not only to our benefit given her tremendous talent, but as the visionary for the memorial, it is the right thing to do,” said Theresa M. Brandon, President of the National Service Animals Monument, Inc. “Susan’s attention to detail to the animal form will create stunning pieces which will enthrall visitors along with the many stories of their heroics throughout history.”

Bahary, who lives in the San Francisco Bay area, will be honored Saturday, Nov. 19, during National Dog Show ceremonies at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks, Pa.

“Winning this award brought me back to great days in the ’70s when I was an avid handler of my champion Afghan Hounds that I loved so dearly and the excitement of the dog show world,” Bahary said. “To be back here to receive this recognition is really humbling. I’m so honored to be included in such an esteemed group of winners.”

Bahary is a leader in raising awareness for the contributions and sacrifices of service animals and their handlers, which mirrors the mission of the National Service Animals Monument, Inc.

[Recently passed by the U.S. House of Representatives](#), the National Service Animals Memorial Act would create a memorial in honor of these servants of humankind in the Washington, D.C., area. NSAM envisions a parklike setting with pathways leading to beautiful bronze sculptures of

service animals, depicting the many ways these amazing creatures aid and protect our nation and its citizens.

From working dogs and assistance animals to war horses and dolphins, the monument will honor all service animals and their handlers, and inform visitors of their historical significance.

The House bill passed with help from a bipartisan array of public servants, including Pennsylvania Democrat Susan Wild and Republican Nancy Mace of South Carolina. It is currently awaiting a vote as part of a Senate omnibus bill.

Rep. Wild congratulated Bahary on her AKC award.

“Congratulations to Susan Bahary on this award in recognition of her body of work, which has done so much to build awareness of the critical role that service animals play in our society,” she said. “I’m incredibly proud that the House of Representatives came together in recognition of this cause by passing our bipartisan National Service Animals Memorial Act, and I look forward to continuing to work together with advocates to get it passed through the Senate and signed into law.”

The 2022 National Dog Show will be broadcast by NBC beginning at noon across all time zones on Nov. 24 after the Macy’s Thanksgiving Parade. The show will also be available on Peacock, NBCSports.com and on the NBC Sports app.

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To schedule an interview with Sculptor Susan Bahary or NSAM Board President Theresa Brandon, please contact NSAM Communications Director Loyd Brumfield at 972-768-2247 or send an email to loyd@nsamproject.org.