

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



T.J. LAFEBER **Avian Practitioner of the Year**

The [T.J. Lafeber Avian Practitioner of the Year](#) is an outstanding practitioner that has advanced the quality of health care for companion and/or free-ranging birds. The Award is given annually, or at the Committee's discretion, to a veterinarian that is currently active in the field of avian medicine, either in clinical practice or academia.



Shown above, [Dr. Julia Ponder](#), the 2025 T.J. Lafeber Avian Practitioner of the Year

Important criteria for the Award include:

- Clinical excellence
- Innovation
- Promotion of the profession
- Significant contributions to the knowledge base
- Caring & compassion to their patients and clients

Nominate an inspiring avian veterinarian today.

Nominate Today

The awardee will be announced at the [47th Annual Conference of the Association of Avian Veterinarians](#) and will receive a \$1000 cash prize.



[Submit nominations](#)

to Dr. Yvonne R.A. van Zeeland,
Award Committee Chair by

July 17, 2026

11:59 pm CDT (UTC -5)

[What time is this in my time zone?](#)

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