

**Civil Rights, Inclusion & Opportunity Department**

**Human Rights Award Criteria**

**2025**

You are invited to nominate someone to receive a 2025 Human Rights Award!

The City of Detroit’s Civil Rights, Inclusion & Opportunity Department (CRIO) in partnership with our Human Rights Commission is hosting its 7th Annual Human Rights Award Celebration to honor individuals who advance human rights and exemplify hope, strength and progress because of the measurable actions and achievements shown in one of the following categories:

**Category 1: Human Rights**

The nominee in this category demonstrates a strong and unwavering commitment to upholding human rights aligned with the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights within the City of Detroit. Anyone whose commitment is evident in their words, actions and policies. For example:

* They champion equality and non-discrimination: This individual should actively work to uphold human rights and promote protections, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, disability or socio-economic status.
* Engage with underrepresented communities: There should be viable efforts to engage and empower underrepresented and marginalized communities within Detroit, ensuring their voices are heard and their needs are addressed.
* Measurable Impact: Demonstration of positive outcomes should be indisputable. There should be clear data that details the impact on the City of Detroit through their work.

**Category 2: Civil Rights**

Nominate the individual who fights for and protects civil rights in Detroit! Civil Rights are protections under the United States Constitution and the Civil Rights Act of 1964 are rights entitled to a person through citizenship of a particular country, nation or state including these:

* Civil Rights & Civil Liberties: Nominees for this award should have made substantial and long-term contributions to the furtherance of civil rights or civil liberties in the city of Detroit.
* Engagement with underrepresented communities: This person would be one who engages and fights to empower underrepresented and marginalized communities within Detroit, ensuring their voices are heard and their needs are addressed.
* Measurable Impact: Show evidence of positive outcomes and include any data that details the impact on the City of Detroit through their work.

**Category 3: Inclusionary Justice**

Nominate the person who demonstrates a sustained commitment to advancing equity, inclusion, and justice for marginalized communities. This includes someone who uplifts the community and embodies the values of systemic change, collective empowerment, and equitable leadership through hiring practices and/or policy initiatives.

* This person should show leadership and advocacy in advancing diversity, inclusion and equity in the city. This may include participating in public awareness campaigns, promoting diversity in leadership positions and championing related causes.
* The nominee should exhibit cultural competency, respect for diverse traditions and have a sensitivity to the unique challenges and experiences of various cultural and ethnic groups.
* Include comprehensive initiatives that promote diversity and inclusion through educational programs and outreach efforts, especially in schools and educational institutions.
* The individual creates and expands economic opportunities that are equitable and accessible to all, regardless of race, religion, disability, ethnic background, gender, gender identity and expression or socioeconomic background.
* Community Collaboration: This person actively collaborates with other community organizations, the City of Detroit and stakeholders to address diversity and inclusion challenges collectively.

**Category 4: Accessibility**

Nominate the individual who promotes initiatives that focus on making public spaces, services and facilities more

accessible to individuals with disabilities and all members of the community. This can include transportation

accessibility, educational inclusion, affordable accessible housing, emergency preparedness and viable employment

opportunities, etc.

❖ The nominee in this category has implemented inclusive policies and practices within their workplaces or

through community initiatives. These policies should actively promote accessibility and inclusion.

❖ This individual makes significant and measurable impact in increasing accessibility and fostering inclusion within

the community. This could be demonstrated through statistics, case studies, or testimonials.

❖ Include those who actively include, engage and consult with people with disabilities and relevant stakeholders to

ensure that accessibility measures are effective and meaningful.

**Category 5: Economic Opportunity**

Nominate the person who demonstrates a commitment to advancing equitable access to economic resources, educational advancement, job training, entrepreneurship and professional development. They help remove barriers and create an environment that empowers the community to build and scale their individual and collective impact.

**Nominees in this category:**

* Focus on education and workforce development
* Champion high-quality education and providing pathways to careers and skills training.
* Support inclusive practices, encouraging inclusive hiring, advocating for policies that create equitable opportunities, and promoting local economic development.
* Advocate for systemic change and work to improve economic policies and create systemic change, such as through government or non-profit organizations, and are instrumental in advancing economic opportunity.
* Foster economic health through job creation andcontributing to a strong, diverse economy.

Please nominate your choice. Nominations open October 17 and close October 28, 2025

Awards will be presented at an in-person ceremony

**December 10, 2025**

**10 am to Noon**

**AB Ford Community Center - Main Banquet Room**

**100 Lenox Street**

**Detroit, MI**