



## The District of Columbia Commission on Human Rights and The Office of Human Rights Request for Nominations for 2022 Human Rights Awards

### 1. Overview

The District of Columbia Commission on Human Rights in partnership with the Office on Human Rights seeks nominees for the following three categories of human rights awards to be awarded at its 2022 Human Rights Gala on **December 6, 2022**. This year's Gala theme is ***Celebrating Exceptional Leadership at the Crossroads of Gender and Human Rights***: it focuses on all aspects of gender, from reproductive rights to gender equity to gender identity and expression. All nominations should clearly reflect and advance this Gala theme.

### 2. Award Descriptions

#### **Cornelius R. "Neil" Alexander Humanitarian Award**

The Cornelius R. "Neil" Alexander Humanitarian Award recognizes the efforts and accomplishments of an individual in the District, who embodies the indomitable spirit of our renowned former Chief Hearing Examiner of the Commission. With extensive knowledge of discrimination law and a dedication to civil rights and social justice, Neil Alexander wrote numerous legal decisions that not only received regional and national attention but set precedents that would forever shape our enjoyment of rights in the District. This award celebrates the awardee's life-time achievements in the protection of human rights in the District. Past awardees have dedicated a significant portion of their careers to the protection of one or more of the 23 Protected Traits.

#### **Emerging Human Rights Leader Award**

This award is given to an individual in the District, aged 30 years or younger, who is emerging as a leader and exhibits extraordinary leadership in human rights awareness raising through advocacy, the arts, education, networking, outreach, or other similar activities.

#### **Community Award**

For the first time, this award is given to an organization in the District that is emerging as a leader towards the protection and promotion of one or more of the 23 Protected Traits or other human right issues.

### **3. Submission Details:**

For the first two awards, the Commission welcomes nominations of exceptional D.C. residents. Consideration for non-DC residents is welcomed if the nominated individual's exceptional contributions in the District of Columbia can be demonstrated. For the third award, the Commission encourages nominations of organizations active in the District. Nominations must be received no later than **October 28, 2022**.

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To nominate a DC resident or a D.C. organization, please write a short statement in support of the nominee, including the information requested below, and email the statement to the D.C. Commission on Human Rights at [Commission.COHR@dc.gov](mailto:Commission.COHR@dc.gov):

- a. For the individual award, provide the nominated person's name, age (for the Emerging Human Rights Leader Award), affiliation, title, and email address; and for the Community Award, provide the name of the organization, contact person and email address.
- b. In what way(s) has the nominee made a significant contribution to the advancement of human or civil rights in the District of Columbia as it relates to this year's theme on gender?
- c. Is the individual a resident of the District? / Is the organization actively doing business in the District? If so, please provide details.