

WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS

In honor of National Women's History Month, and to give recognition to the many and varied gifts of the Women of Siouxland, the Women of Excellence Awards are being offered. The recipients are women who have demonstrated strength of character and personal growth, made significant contributions in the past and have convincing plans for the future. They exemplify excellence in their commitments to the community by their volunteer efforts or through their vocations. Their generosity of spirit inspires others, particularly women.

Award Categories

WOMEN PURSUING TRUTH

This award honors intelligence, knowledge, and perseverance. **Please describe** how your nominee uses her knowledge and leadership traits to actively pursue truth and pass it on to others. The knowledge she has gained and wishes to share or use to advocate for others may have been acquired through her professional &/or volunteer involvement including, but not exclusive to, education, justice, government, politics, or media.

WOMEN STRIVING TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE

This award honors a woman who leads others to greater understanding and respect for themselves and the world in which they live. She may nurture the growth and development of the next generation in special ways; she may promote peace and equality between nations, races, sexes, communities or persons - or in individuals. **Please describe** the way her volunteer or extraordinary professional efforts impact and improve the quality of her self-described community. Examples may be found in human services, ministry, home environs, health care, environmental issues or humanities.

WOMEN TAKING RISKS

This award honors courage and strength of character. This woman accepts challenges and breaks through societal barriers in order to achieve truly important and difficult work. She persists in her efforts; she has clearly defined goals and her decision-making reflects mature judgment. **Please describe** the circumstances and the manner in which your nominee overcame and ultimately excelled under extreme challenges, or in a nontraditional occupation such as the military, athletics, or business.

WOMEN CREATING ART

This award honors risk-taking in producing or performing art. **Please describe** how your nominee creates either new artistic patterns and connections, brings fresh insights through the written word or musical form, or develops new ways of looking at things through visual images. Her field may be the traditional fine arts, literary arts, visual arts, music, dance or theater.

WOMEN HELPING WOMEN

Although the woman honored in this award could be nominated in another, she is singled out here for her work to foster the personal and social growth of women. The fruit of her work is to make society more hospitable to that growth. Her relationships with women, as well as her goals to create a better future for women, are marked by insight, generosity and a peaceful, constructive spirit. **Please provide** examples of your nominee's endeavors.

WOMEN DEVELOPING THE COMMUNITY

This award honors a woman who impacts her community by envisioning needs, generating ideas and developing solutions that benefit her community. She obtains and utilizes resources that result in a new organization, facility, event or other development. The scale and impact of her efforts is readily recognized by a significant portion of the community. **Please describe** how your nominee's vision became reality and how its reality impacted her community.

YOUNG WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE

This award honors excellence in a woman between the ages of 22 and 40 because she is determined to reach an ambitious or unconventional goal, although the goal may change as she matures. She is focused and confident. **Please describe** your nominee's goals and provide examples of her integrity and accomplishments, as evidenced when her aspirations have been challenged by today's society.

If you have any questions about this form, contact the office of Women Aware or any of the awards Planning Committee members.

NOMINATION FORM

This form is also available online: www.womenawarescia.org

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

Name of Nominee _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Birth date _____

Name of Nominator _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

In what capacity do you know the nominee? _____

Nominating group (if applicable) _____

Category of Nomination (Check one)

Women Pursuing Truth

Women Striving

Women Taking Risks

Women Creating Art

Women Helping Women

Women Developing the
Community

Young Women of Excellence

I. Please follow the instructions carefully. Incomplete information may affect the judges' decisions.

A. BIOGRAPHY – Please complete the attached sheet.

B. QUALIFICATIONS – Relate her life experiences to the selected category. Give an example of her leadership in her field and how she has inspired others by her example. Describe the difference she has made through her commitment, and how that difference exemplifies her category. **Please limit your narrative to two typed pages, using a font and size that is easy to read.**

C. SUMMARY – In two sentences, cite the single greatest accomplishment of this individual which qualifies her for this award.

II. THREE REFERENCES AND 1 PHOTOGRAPH

Please include with this application form one photograph (candid or portrait) of your nominee and **three brief letters of reference** for the nominee. No more than one family member may serve as a reference.

III. SUBMIT THE ORIGINAL SET PLUS FIVE (5) COPIES (with letters) OF THE ENTIRE NOMINATION PACKAGE. You need submit only one photo.

The undersigned certify the submitted information is true. We consent to allow the judges to reassign the nomination category if they unanimously deem it more appropriate. We understand we need to be present at the Women of Excellence Awards banquet and that the enclosed \$40 includes the application fee and a ticket to the banquet for the nominee.

Signature of **Nominator**/Date

Signature of **Nominee**/Date

A. BIOGRAPHY

PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN THE SPACE PROVIDED:

HOMETOWN (and other communities, if applicable): _____

EDUCATION: _____

FAMILY: _____

LIST COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN LAST 15 YEARS (including employment if relevant to the award): _____

DESCRIBE A UNIQUE FEATURE ABOUT YOUR NOMINEE'S LIFE JOURNEY: _____
