leader luncheon information
Since 1984, the YWCA Elgin has celebrated the achievements of our area leaders with the annual Leader Luncheon. Leader Luncheon provides business, industry, and other community organizations with an opportunity to honor women and non-binary volunteers and employees by recognizing their leadership and contributions. For more information, call (847) 742-7930.

Thursday, May 12, 2022
The Seville • 700 Barrington Road • Streamwood
Reception at 11:00 a.m. & Luncheon at 12:00 noon
$50 per YWCA member • $55 per non-member • $1,250 Leader Circle Tables

nomination information
You are invited to nominate individuals who demonstrate outstanding leadership, achievement, and contribution in our community. Nominations may be made by an individual, a business or an organization. Women and non-binary individuals nominated in past years may be re-nominated. No YWCA staff or board member may nominate or be nominated. Posthumous nomination are not allowed.

DEADLINE: All nomination forms must be submitted by midnight on Thursday, March 3, 2021.
Mail to: YWCA Leader Luncheon, 220 East Chicago Street, Elgin, IL 60120 and include nominee's portrait (portrait should be emailed to info@ywcaelgin.org and will be used for the YWCA website, recipient booklet and the day of the event.)

selection process
The recipients of the Awards will be selected by a panel of independent judges. The names of the recipients are announced at the Leader Luncheon. All nominees attending will be introduced and receive a certificate of recognition.

award descriptions and criteria
The Individual Leader Awards are named for area women who have made significant contributions in each award category.

Margaret Hillis Award for the Arts
Nationally renowned Margaret Hillis was the conductor of the Chicago Symphony Chorus for 14 years, music director of the Elgin Symphony Orchestra and a winner of numerous Grammy Awards.

Beatrice Dorsey Award for Business & Professions
A successful local businesswoman for 44 years, Beatrice Dorsey forged the way for other women entering business and professions.

Marguerite Henry Award for Communications & Technology
Author of more than 50 books, many of them children's classics, Marguerite Henry received many prestigious national and international literary awards.

Harriet Gifford and Hattie Griffin Award for Education
An educator, Harriet Gifford established the first school in Elgin in 1836 at the edge of the early American frontier, laying the foundation for later educational systems. Co-founder of the YWCA Elgin, Hattie Griffin was an educator for over 50 years.

Myrtle Spiegler Gerberding Award for Public Service
As the first woman to assume the position of City Clerk of Elgin and designer of the city flag, Myrtle paved the way for women to actively participate in the field of public service.

Betty Brown Award for Racial Justice
As a community leader and activist, Betty Brown laid the ground work for the earliest racial equality movements in Elgin, IL.

Marie Grolich Award for Social Services
An executive director for the YWCA of Elgin for 20 years, Marie Grolich spearheaded many new and innovative social programs benefiting the entire community.

Marjorie Leonard Award for Volunteer & Community Service
As a volunteer and humanitarian, Marjorie Leonard gave countless hours to many individuals, civic organizations and social agencies.

The award criteria for each category are:
• Significant level of achievement in the category
• Demonstrated qualities of leadership
• Holding past or current leadership positions in the category
• Demonstrated commitment to excellence
• Outstanding or innovative contribution in the category
• Achievement which has made improvements in the specific profession, business, or service
former leader luncheon award recipients

lifetime achievement award
2003 Myrtle Speigler Gerberding
2013 Marlene Shales
2014 Myra Becker

the arts
1984 Jane Chipman
1985 Lisa Boehm
1986 Eileen McNichol
1987 Rowena Swan
1988 Marcene Linstrom
1989 Clare Olayos
1990 Donna Burridge
1991 Molly Konitzer
1992 Mary Rauscher
1993 Lamar Blum
1994 Ethel Dauemner
1995 Phyllis Ziegler
1996 Edith Pits
1997 Shirley Friedman
1998 Rose Goldstein
1999 Suzanne Smenskowsky
2000 Florence Jacobson
2001 Pearl Brody
2002 Murra Hansmann
2003 Lisa Jean Klotner
2004 Lois R. Myers-Sauer
2005 Julie Ford
2006 Mary Ellen Kanies Beckmann
2007 Kathy Matthews
2008 Jeanne Hebeisen
2009 Joyce Diugoalojski
2010 Rosalind Zager
2011 Mary Hatch
2012 Wilma Booth
2013 Risé Jones
2014 Solange Sior
2015 Sandra Kaptain
2016 Erin Reinherz
2017 Dr. Sojung Hong
2018 Amanda Harris
2019 Jane Erlansdor
2021 Courtney Garcia

business & professions
1984 Kay Martin
1985 Lois Lange
1986 Susan Cincinelli
1987 Pat Sjurset
1988 Pam Jensen
1989 Madalena J. Vignocchi
1990 Darcy Dougherty
1991 Patricia Piper Golden
1992 Marlo Quick
1993 Diana Miller
1994 Margarita Manzano
1995 Nancy Eppling
1996 Monica Bates
1997 Jane Craddock Ryan
1998 Bonnie Hill
1999 Jo Ann Amenta
2000 Rhonda Polcio
2001 Lisa West
2002 Lynn Schwartz
2003 Liz Wilmes
2004 Karana Schwarz
2005 Judith Brownfield
2006 Marcelle Bear
2007 Carolyn Kirk-Klou
2008 Kathy Hannell
2009 Pamela A. Urbanski
2010 Merrie Derderian
2011 Carole Medal
2012 Traci Ellis
2013 Linda Deering
2014 Cheryl Wodruff
2015 Dorothea Poulos, M.D.
2016 Katherine Hurt
2017 Carol Gieske
2018 V. Guadalupe Fonseca
2019 Mary Martini
2021 Oleta Johnson

communications & technology
1984 Fern Risley
1985 Elizabeth Armstead
1986 Carole Akerman
1987 Marianne Nelson
1988 Betty Brown
1989 Patricia M. Szepkowski
1990 Betty Mahoney
1991 LaNea Pfeiffer
1992 Kathy Woodman
1993 Marilyn Figgis
1994 Bernice Raibe
1995 Laura Carillo Barth
1996 Alice McCoy
1997 Debbie Wodrich
1998 Donna Lee Grimmelt
1999 M. Ruth Tofanelli
2000 Diane Marie Stredde
2001 Bobbie Waschow
2002 Kathalene Roberts
2003 Fay Dacze
2004 Paula Amerta
2005 Gail Shadwell
2006 Carolyn O’Neal
2007 Vicki Kirkland
2008 Heather J. Gates
2009 Denise Raleigh
2010 Susan Salach-Cutter
2011 Tonya Hudson
2012 Kristie Murphy-Cutter
2013 Kimberly Gilmore
2014 Corin Hilbert
2015 Kari Christensen
2016 Molly Center
2017 Toya Webb
2018 Amanda Garcia
2019 Natalie Kiburg
2021 Susan Anderson-Khleif

education
1984 Edna Holland
1985 Marilyn Ponders
1986 Susan Moylan
1987 Mary Anne Stegemeier
1988 Sister Annella
1989 Linda M. Hanson
1990 Ruth Tofanelli
1991 Gayle Saunders Stanwell
1992 Judith Pavlak
1993 Renate Matheaus
1994 Barbara Juister
1995 Elizabeth Juergensmeyer
1996 Sharily Marie Butzrus
1997 Susan Thompson
1998 Linda Hefflin
1999 Annabellie Rhoades
2000 Carol Morrison
2001 Eleanor MacKinney
2002 Dorothy Wiese
2003 Margaret Brady
2004 Barbara Bonner
2005 Jean Bowlen
2006 Peggy Deitchleton
2007 Gianna Godinsky
2008 Roberta Nauman
2009 Donna Schuring Redmer
2010 Connie Orbela
2011 Risid Jones
2012 Jill Russell
2013 Carole Peto
2014 Holly York
2015 Deborah Perryman
2016 Rebecca Jurs
2017 Kathleen Rusniak
2018 Christeen Szaquent
2019 Dr. Usha Shah
2021 Susan Timm Ent.D.

public service
2003 Marie Yearman
2004 Donna Anderson
2005 Clare M. Olayos, D.C.
2006 Billie D. Roth
2007 Loni Meum
2008 Nancy Rohr
2009 Ruth Munson
2010 Jackie Tredup
2011 Janet Poyner
2012 Maria Cumpata
2013 Susan Harney
2014 Mary Camacho
2015 Cristina Castro
2016 Miriam Anderson Lytle
2017 Ana Alley
2018 Eira L. Sepulveda
2019 Kim Wascher
2021 Farrah Gazi

racial justice award
1996 Sylvia Murphy Williams
2000 Mary Vickers
2001 Sandra Buchheit
2002 Judy Jobe
2003 Phyllis Fornari
2004 Audrey Reed
2005 Mary Wheeler-West
2006 Lillia Feliciano
2007 Mary Ann Stephens
2008 Adriana Carpio de Palma
2009 Danise Habun
2010 Andrea Fiebig
2011 Helen Lopez Strom
2012 Joyce Fountain
2013 Kimberly Spaguia
2014 Maria Christina “Tina” Vigliucci
2015 Jane “Juanita” Barboza
2016 Angelene Nau
2017 Danielle Henson
2018 Rabbi Margaret Frisch Klein
2019 Paola Velasquez
2021 Reina Franco

social services
1984 Pat Wasmund
1985 Joan Bena
1986 Gretchen Vapnar
1987 Peggy Mutettles
1988 Evelyn Pappas
1989 Joanne Neleser
1990 Sandra Freeman
1991 Carol K. Gieske
1992 Elizabeth Rice
1993 Nora K. Miller
1994 Cindy Ciancio
1995 Christine Tredup
1996 Adella Bedwell Wells
1997 Karen Beyer
1998 Sister June Dous
1999 Lillian Dixon
2000 Julie Lichtenberg
2001 Dorothy Yeoman
2002 Carol Elias
2003 Mary Kae Hoffman
2005 Diane Nimblett
2006 Nancy Pudelwits
2006 JoAnn Stringer
2007 Kathy Fox
2008 Shelley Wasmund Lewis
2009 Amybeth Maurer
2010 Connie Patino
2011 Siobhan Cottone
2012 Kathy Hazelwood
2013 Marlene Polkomy
2014 Dr. Mae Hicks-Jones
2015 Maureen Manning-Rosenfeld
2016 Karen Oswald
2017 Vivian Maly
2018 Dr. Kimberly Schellin-Rog
2019 Lea Conrad
2021 Janeth Barba

volunteer & community service
1984 Carol Harwood
1985 Barbara Belding
1986 Jackie Pierce
1987 Nancy Burdige
1988 Sue Rakow
1989 Betty Marie Allen
1990 Cheryl Lee Lewis
1991 Margaret E. Kenyon
1992 Jean Murtiz
1993 Marlene Shales
1994 Taffy Hoffer
1995 Mary Jane Arnold
1996 Marianne Nelson
1997 Janet Thijsel
1998 Ann Warner
1999 Kathy Pava
2000 Caron C. Nickelson
2001 Laura Anderson
2002 Janine Kirkland
2003 Lena Scheflow
2004 Laurel Bautl
2005 Dana Vieck
2006 Jeannette Mihalec
2007 Roneil DeLourka
2008 Sashi Darmon
2009 Susan Angeli-Case
2010 Elizabeth Hoefi
2011 Sigi Pirmenos
2012 Donna Askins
2013 Deanna Young
2014 Patricia Harkin
2015 Deirdre Higgins White
2016 Catherine Olson
2017 Karen Schook
2018 Joan Hartmann
2019 Carri Laird
2021 Pam Eggum

corporate award
1984 Church of the Brethren
General Offices
1985 Elgin Community College
1986 Sherman Hospital
1987 First National Bank of Elgin
1988 St. Joseph Hospital
1989 Lamptronix Inc.
1990 Elgin Community College
1991 Elgin Area Services
1992 First Card
1993 NBD Bank of Elgin
1994 Target Greatland & Community Crisis Center
1995 Jayne Shover Easter Seal Rehabilitation Center
1996 Oak Crest Residence
1997 K-40 Electronics
1998 Hines & Associates
1999 The Learning Tree
2000 Home Federal Savings
2001 The Early Education Station
2002 Steffen, Kelly & Steffen
2003 Total Home Health
2004 EFS Bank
2005 School District U-46
2006 Judson College’s
2207 AIM Internship Program
2008 Gal Borden Library
2009 Greater Elgin Family Care Center
2010 Plante Moran
2011 First Community Bank
& Habitat for Humanity of the NFV
2013 Bear Family McDonald’s Restaurant
2014 Elgin Community College
2015 Little Angels Center for Exceptional Care
2016 Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra
2018 Grand Victoria Casino
2019 City of Elgin
2022 nomination form

Nominations can be made online at www.ywcaelgin.ywca.org/Nominate22 or by completing this form. If this form is used, please submit your nomination to the YWCA Elgin by emailing it to info@ywcaelgin.org or by mailing it to YWCA Elgin, 220 E. Chicago Street, Elgin, IL 60120.

A SAMPLE LEADER LUNCHEON NOMINATION IS AVAILABLE AT www.ywcaelgin.org

Part I.

category (Check the category of the award for which this nomination is being made.)

- Arts
- Business & Professions
- Communications & Technology
- Education
- Public Service
- Racial Justice
- Social Services
- Volunteer & Community Service

Part II.
nominee profile

Nominee’s Full Name (as the nominee wishes it to appear in print)

Preferred Pronouns (circle one): she/her/’er’s they/them/’theirs

Home Address

Home Telephone __________________________________________ e-mail __________________________________________

Nominee’s Occupation/Profession (employed or volunteer)

Name of Sponsor (as the sponsor would like it to appear in print)

Contact Name (if the sponsor is not an individual)

Address __________________________________________

Telephone __________________________________________ e-mail __________________________________________

Part III.
narrative

Directions: Please respond briefly to the following statements and attach to this Nomination Form. Submissions must be at least one full 8½”x11” sheet of paper and are not to exceed four sheets of 8½”x11” paper (one side only). No additional attachments are allowed. Use award criteria as your guide. Place nominee’s name on each sheet of paper, number responses and use readable (12pt.) font.

1. Describe how you have known or worked with the nominee.
2. List the significant achievements of the nominee in the named category.
3. List past or present positions of leadership or responsibility.
4. Describe qualities of leadership demonstrated by the nominee.
5. Describe how this person has demonstrated a commitment to excellence.
6. Explain how the nominee made an outstanding or innovative contribution in the category.
7. List any achievement which has made improvements in the specific profession, business, or service.
8. In 70 words or less provide important accomplishments that support your nominee being chosen as the 2022 award recipient in their category. This will be used on the website and at the event.

Part IV.
nominee portrait

Nominee portraits need to be emailed to info@ywcaelgin.org. In the subject line of the email please indicate that it is a Leader Luncheon Nominee Portrait and include the name of the nominee.

Checklist

Please have the nominee review their nomination before it is submitted.

A complete nomination should include:

- Part I. Category Identification
- Part II. Nominee Profile
- Part III. Narrative (NOTE—Narratives exceeding four pages or less than one full page will not be judged)
- Part IV. Nominee Portrait (portrait should be emailed to info@ywcaelgin.org)
Mail nominations to YWCA Elgin, 220 East Chicago Street, Elgin, IL 60120 or email to info@ywcaelgin.org

Forms must be received by midnight on Thursday, March 3, 2022. Thank You!

2021 Leader Luncheon Award Recipients

Courtney Garcia
Arts

Oletha Johnson
Business & Professions

Susan Anderson-Khleif
Communications & Technology

Susan Timm, Ed.D.
Education

Farrah Qazi
Public Service

Reina Franco
Racial Justice

Janeth Barba
Social Service

Pam Eggum
Volunteer & Community Service

ywca elgin mission statement

YWCA Elgin is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.