2024 Award Descriptions and Past Recipients

The National Philanthropy Day steering committee encourages nominations from individuals, groups, and organizations representing all regions of Colorado. The Association of Fundraising Professionals Colorado Chapter defines diversity as seeking and achieving a broad representation of experiences, perspectives, opinions, and cultures within philanthropy. We believe that inclusiveness is an essential source of strength and vitality.

**LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT**
Presented to an **individual** who has demonstrated significant, lasting, and impactful philanthropic accomplishments in Colorado for at least 10 years. Ideally, those accomplishments should cross multiple causes, for example, arts and human services. The individual will most likely embody the characteristics inherent in two or more of the award categories below, and impact should be demonstrated through the individual's professional, volunteer, and/or personal achievements. This is the highest honor presented at National Philanthropy Day.

*Past winners: Marilyn Van Derbur Atler, Steve Graham, David E. Henninger, A. Barry Hirschfeld, Doris Kester, Charles D. Latuda, Gail and Dave Liniger, Ann Love, Sally Rippey, Daniel L. Ritchie, Sue Anschutz Rodgers, Shari F. Shink, Esq, and J. Robert Young.*

**OUTSTANDING LARGE BUSINESS** (approximately 100+ Colorado employees)
Presented to a large for-profit business or government agency that has demonstrated outstanding long-term or sustained commitment to the community. Ideally, this is achieved by creating a **corporate philanthropic culture** that includes financial support and corporate social responsibility while also encouraging and motivating employees/others to take leadership roles and volunteer.

OUTSTANDING SMALL BUSINESS (approximately 1-99 Colorado employees)
Presented to a small for-profit business that has demonstrated outstanding long-term or sustained commitment to the community. Ideally, this is achieved through the creation of a corporate philanthropic culture that includes financial support and corporate social responsibility while also encouraging and motivating employees/others to take leadership roles and volunteer.


OUTSTANDING FOUNDATION
Presented to a grantmaking (private or community) foundation (giving to the broader community across several funding areas, not just one organization) that has demonstrated outstanding commitment through strategic financial support and through encouragement and motivation of others to take leadership roles and make an impact in philanthropy and community involvement. For corporate foundations, please focus on the work of the foundation, not the company’s entire philanthropy program and employees.


OUTSTANDING PHILANTHROPIST(S)
Presented to an individual or couple who have a record of exceptional personal generosity that demonstrates outstanding civic or charitable responsibility and whose impactful leadership has encouraged others in philanthropic roles.

OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL FUNDRAISER
Presented to an individual fundraising professional who works at a 501(c)(3) public charity (or one who has made a significant impact as a professional and is now retired or working as a consultant) and who has made a significant impact through successful fundraising, outstanding commitment, dedication, and talent in promoting and supporting philanthropy over a sustained period of time in the community. This individual has demonstrated a commitment to advancing philanthropy through mentoring others in the profession and holding volunteer leadership positions in the community.

Past Winners: Mitz R. Barnes, Bonnie Downing, Karen Campbell, Elycia Cook, Bob Cooper, Jennifer Darling, Debra Edwards, Mary Feller, Griff Freyschlag, Jacquie Hall, Sarah Harrison, Donna Hultin, Dianna L. Kunz, Jennifer Lackey, Jackie Norris, Carolyn Schaefer Wollard, Lisa Schlarbaum, Russell Schuckman, Jan Weimer, and Alexandra Yajko.

OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL GRANTMAKER
Presented to an individual grantmaking professional who works for a grantmaking organization (or one who has made a significant impact as a professional and is now retired or working as a consultant) and has made a significant impact through outstanding commitment, dedication, and talent toward promoting and supporting philanthropy over a sustained period of time in the community. This individual has demonstrated a commitment to advancing philanthropy through mentoring others in the profession and holding various volunteer leadership positions in the community.


OUTSTANDING SERVICE ORGANIZATION
Presented to a volunteer social club/community service group (with no paid staff) that has demonstrated outstanding commitment and impact through financial support and the encouragement and motivation of others to take leadership roles in philanthropy and community involvement. This category does not include nonprofit 501(c)(3) public charity organizations providing direct services.

OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER
Presented to an individual who has demonstrated excellence in volunteer service leading to significant outcomes and impact for the community. This individual must have demonstrated exceptional leadership skills in recruiting, motivating, and coordinating groups of volunteers, devoted great time and effort to the advancement of volunteerism, or shown deep commitment of voluntary action to address community needs.


OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER FUNDRAISER
Presented to an individual who has made a significant impact through exceptional leadership skills in coordinating, recruiting, and motivating others to make financial contributions, demonstrated his/her own financial support, and shown a commitment to the advancement of philanthropy.


OUTSTANDING YOUTH
Presented to an individual youth volunteer (18 and under) who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to promoting philanthropy and volunteerism through his/her work in the community. This commitment and impact are demonstrated specifically through activities over a number of years. The individual acts as a role model for other youth in the community and generates interest in volunteerism in other groups. The winner will receive a $3,000 award for education expenses.


OUTSTANDING YOUTH GROUP
Presented to a youth group (18 and under and not a program of a nonprofit organization providing direct services) that has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to promoting philanthropy and volunteerism through their work in the community. This commitment and impact are demonstrated specifically through activities over a period of time. The group acts as a role model for others in the community and generates interest in volunteerism in other groups.
or individuals. The group will receive a $3,000 award to assist in continuing its community work.


**INSPIRATION AWARD**

Presented to an individual, team, business, or nonprofit organization focusing on racial justice and advancing inclusion, diversity, equity, and access efforts (IDEA). This commitment and work are evident in an environment where all are valued, innovative, and empowered. This individual, corporation, organization, or group inspires others to increase community involvement, support, or philanthropy.

**Past winners:** Anythink Libraries, Community Shares of Colorado, and Urban Leadership Foundation of Colorado.

*These guidelines are current for 2024. Previous winners may have been selected and won under different guidelines. Previous award winners are only eligible for nomination five award cycles after their award year. (Recipient list by year available on afpcc.org)*