



Women of Achievement Awards

The Women of Achievement Awards is YWCA Lower Cape Fear's signature fundraiser to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of women and young leaders in our community. Since 1985, we have recognized more than 300 Women of Achievement. In addition to recognizing outstanding female leaders, the event has also raised key support for the YWCA's programs and services which promote racial justice and gender equity for thousands of women, children and their families in southeastern North Carolina. On May 4, 2017, YWCA Lower Cape Fear will present the 32nd annual Women of Achievement Awards at the Wilmington Convention Center.

Award Categories

The YWCA Women of Achievement Awards provide recognition for outstanding contributions and achievements of women in the following categories: Arts, Business, Education, Environmental, Health and Wellness, Public Service, Rachel Freeman Unsung Hero, Social Justice, Volunteer and Young Leaders.

The Selection Process

YWCA Women of Achievement Award recipients are selected by a committee made up of representatives of event sponsors and community members. This committee meets to consider all nominees and make the final selections. Award recipients are not notified prior to the event as they are announced at the Women of Achievement Awards ceremony. Nominees who are not selected as award recipients may be nominated again.

The Women of Achievement Awards are presented to women who....

- Exhibit leadership skills in their field of expertise
- Advocate for positive social change in our community
- Demonstrate a commitment to the YWCA Mission of eliminating racism and empowering women
- Have garnered respect within the community
- Are dedicated to helping women and girls achieve their goals
- Exhibit qualities of teamwork, integrity and dedication
- Give back to the community through their time, talent and/or resources
- Active in Brunswick, Columbus, New Hanover and Pender counties.

Deadline for Nominations

The deadline for nominations is **February 17, 2017** by 5pm. Please submit one (1) copy of the nomination by:

Mail: WOA Selections Committee, 2815 S. College Rd. Wilmington, NC 28412 or

Email: astexd@ywca-lowercapefear.org or

Fax: (910) 799-5681

Questions

If you have any questions, please contact YWCA Lower Cape Fear Interim Executive Director, Katie Tate, at (910) 799-6820 x 104 or astexd@ywca-lowercapefear.org. You can also visit ywca-lowercapefear.org for more information!

YWCA Lower Cape Fear | 2815 S. College Rd. | (910) 799-6820 | ywca-lowercapefear.org

Nomination Categories

- **Arts** Recognizes significant contributions in the visual, literary, cultural, performing and graphic arts, television, radio, journalism and/or architecture.
- **Business** Recognizes significant contributions in business, industry, banking, marketing, public relations, law or finance and/or those who are self-employed who have contributed their time and talents to local businesses.
- **Education** Recognizes significant contributions in the field of education as a teacher, administrator, researcher, coach and/or librarian. The nominee should demonstrate commitment to improving the quality of education.
- **Environmental** Recognizes significant contributions in the promotion of environmental quality or preservation through employment or volunteer activity and contributions to the improvement of local environmental issues.
- **Health and Wellness** Recognizes significant contributions in the fields of medicine and/or fitness. The nominee may be a physician, dentist, nurse, researcher, therapist, technician and/or administrator.
- **Public Service** Recognizes significant contributions that enhance the quality of life for the community. The nominee may work for the government as an elected/appointed official, non-profit or in any field that has a positive impact on public policy.
- **Rachel Freeman Unsung Hero** Recognizes a woman who might not be as well known as others, but who has overcome significant difficulties to serve her family, church and/or community. This award is in memory of Ms. Rachel Freeman who served as President of the YWCA Board and on many YWCA committees. She was an active community member, a champion for education and served on the NHC School Board for more than 10 years. The purpose of this award is to honor and encourage women who have overcome significant personal obstacles in their lives and are now in the beginning phase of serving others.
- **Social Justice** Recognizes significant contributions to promote a just society by challenging injustice and valuing diversity through her profession or volunteerism.
- **Volunteer** Recognizes a non-paid volunteer whose contributions of time, energy, leadership and resources have enhanced area organizations and/or community programs/initiatives.
- **Young Leaders** Recognizes significant contributions of 3 high school seniors to their school and community. The top three candidates chosen each receive a \$1,000 scholarship to continue their education after high school.

Information and Guidelines

1. Nominations are invited from organizations, institutions, businesses, professionals, civic groups and individuals. Nominations by family members are discouraged. YWCA Board Members, committee members, staff and past WOA **recipients** are not eligible. Past WOA **nominees** are eligible to be nominated again. Nominees must be active residents of Brunswick, Columbus, New Hanover or Pender counties.
2. Young Leader and Adults have two different nomination forms, please be sure to fill out the **correct form** for the nominee. Young Leader nominations are limited to female high school seniors.
3. **Please involve the nominee in preparing the nomination materials.** It is extremely important that all information is correct and complete. Since award recipients are not announced until the event, the committee must rely on the nominations to compile biographies, which will be used for the award presentations and press releases to media.
4. Completed nominations should be no longer than three pages (not including resume, school transcript or nomination forms). Be sure to number each section in your narrative.
5. Award recipients are announced the night of the event. All nominees will be recognized during the WOA awards ceremony on **May 4, 2017 at the Wilmington Convention Center.**
6. The YWCA will provide a complimentary seat for each nominee at the event. Please invite friends and family! **Seats for the event are \$65 each.** Please keep in mind that this is a fundraising event, which helps the YWCA provide services to our community.
7. **You may purchase tickets online at www.ywca-lowercapefear.org, or at the YWCA, 2815 S. College Road, by 5:00pm on Friday, April 21, 2017.** Seats sell out quickly and reservations will not be taken after the deadline, so make your arrangements early! Please make checks payable to the YWCA Lower Cape Fear.

2017 Women of Achievement Adult Nomination Form

Deadline for Nominations: February 17, 2017

**The Young Leader Award uses a separate nomination form*

Nominator's Contact Information:

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization/Business: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip: _____ County: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Preferred Method of Contact: Email Phone Other: _____

Nominee's Contact Information:

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization/Business: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip: _____ County: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Preferred Method of Contact: Email Phone Other: _____

Check appropriate category: *If more than one category is checked, the Women of Achievement Selection Committee will decide which category is most appropriate.*

ARTS
 BUSINESS
 EDUCATION

ENVIRONMENTAL
 HEALTH/WELLNESS
 PUBLIC SERVICE

RACHEL FREEMAN UNSUNG HERO
 SOCIAL JUSTICE
 VOLUNTEER

**Please print or type all information on a separate document.
Completed nomination should be no longer than 3 pages
(not including resume or nomination forms).**

1. Explain the nominee's background/history of professional achievement and leadership skills for her category (include resume).
2. Explain the impact of the nominee's accomplishments on the community (include success stories, recognition and awards).
3. **Volunteer nominees skip this question.** Explain community involvement and/or volunteer activities (list leadership positions, if any).
4. Describe how the nominee has shown commitment to or support of the **YWCA's Mission of eliminating racism and empowering women.**
5. **Rachel Freeman Unsung Hero nominees only,** please answer this question. Explain how the nominee overcame personal obstacles and barriers to give the service that she did. (Personal obstacles such as illness, disability, extreme poverty, family problems, emotional issues, etc.)

**Letters of support, articles and photos will not be considered. Material submitted cannot be returned.*

I have reviewed the material included in this nomination. _____
Nominee's Signature

I hereby nominate _____
Print Nominee's Name Nominator's Signature

Please return by February 17th at 5:00pm to:

WOA Selections Committee
2815 South College Road
Wilmington, NC 28412
or
astexd@ywca-lowercapefear.org
or
Fax: (910) 799-5681