



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Call for Nominations for 2017 Human Relations Commission Awards

**DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS SEPT. 30, 2017;
 AWARDS CEREMONY WILL BE HELD IN NOVEMBER**

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego’s Human Relations Commission has announced a call for nominations for its annual Recognition Awards in several categories. The awards honor the accomplishments of community members and organizations that promote diversity, equality and inclusion in San Diego. Any member of the public may submit a nomination.

“The Recognition Awards ceremony is a great opportunity for the public and the Commission to spotlight worthy individuals and organizations that help improve our community through respect and understanding,” said Joel Day, Executive Director of the Human Relations Commission. “I urge everyone to take the time to consider nominations for these awards.”

The deadline for submitting nominations is Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2017. A submission form and other information is available on the Human Relations Commission web site at www.sandiego.gov/human-relations/awards. Award categories include:

- **Keith M. Turnham Humanitarian Award**, which honors a former Human Relations Commissioner and dedicated community activist, Keith M. Turnham. It recognizes and honors an individual who is a veteran and is involved in public and community service.
- **Business Diversity Award**, which recognizes a business or corporation for its focus on diversity and inclusion in its organizational philosophy demonstrated through its corporate leadership, employment policies, corporate giving and/or community initiatives.
- **Commission Partner Award**, which acknowledges that partnerships are key to accomplishing positive change in the community. The awardees are people or organizations that have worked closely with the Human Relations Commission through the year on priority issues.
- **Human Relations Commendations**, which acknowledge people who have had not only a profound impact on the community but on the Commission as well.
- **Ashley L. Walker Social Justice Award**, which honors former Commission Executive Director Ashley L. Walker. The person or organization selected for this award will have demonstrated

outstanding and sustained contributions in promoting inclusion and equality in our community. Additional criteria include: 1) Individuals and organizations that believe in and have taken action toward the equality and humane treatment of every member of the community, 2) Individuals and organizations whose good works have had a significant impact in the growth of respect, inclusion and civic engagement of all groups in the community, 3) Individuals and organizations that have demonstrated long-term commitment to the community by living, working, or volunteering in San Diego.

An awards ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 16, 2017, at the Central Library's Shiley Special Events Suite. The Ashley L. Walker Social Justice Award will be presented independently at Alliance San Diego's annual All People's Celebration in January 2018.

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