

16 December 2016 – Fairfax Virginia

Since 1950 the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations has sponsored the Fairfax County Citizen of the Year Award. Each year a selection committee of county-wide organizations meets to review nominations for the Federation's "Citizen of the Year" and Citation(s) of Merit.

The winners are honored at our annual banquet scheduled this year for 1 April 2017. Both the Citizen of the Year Designation and Citation(s) of Merit recognize and honor those citizens whose voluntary contributions of time and talent have resulted in major accomplishments that have enhanced the quality of life for citizens of Fairfax County.

Process:

- Eligibility for both the Citizen of the Year Award and the Citation of Merit:
 - Nominee must be a current resident of Fairfax County.
 - The Citizen of the Year is recognized for voluntary acts that are not related to employment.
 - Elected officials and full-time County or Commonwealth employees are ineligible for consideration if their contributions are related to their full-time positions. (See section on Special Gratitude Awards below)

Criteria:

- Contributions and accomplishments must have countywide rather than local significance.
- The nominee's achievements can be either:
 - General, such as multi-year community service with one or more organizations or activities with cumulative impact over the years of current importance or with positive implications for the future, or
 - Specific, including intense efforts as the major promoter of a single program or project completed in a finite period of time.

Special Gratitude Awards:

- Although elected officials and full-time County or Commonwealth employees are ineligible for consideration as Citizen of the Year or Citation of Merit honorees if their contributions are related to their full-time positions, they may be considered for Special Gratitude Awards.
- Persons whose contributions of time and talent resulted in major accomplishments that have enhanced the quality of life for citizens of Fairfax County, who do not meet the published eligibility standards for the Citizen of the Year consideration, may be honored by Federation Special Gratitude Awards

- Non-residents and deceased residents who have otherwise qualified for the Citizen of the Year Award may also be nominated for a Special Gratitude Award.

The 2016 Nomination form is available online

(<http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/COY/COYApplication.html>) and in RTF format (<http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/COY/COYNominationForm.rtf>). Nominations will be accepted from 1 December 2016 to 31 January 2017

The Federation, established in 1940, is the countywide voice for homeowner, civic, and community associations. More information on the 2016 COY Selection process is available on the Federation's website at www.fairfaxfederation.org.

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