



Iowa Women's Hall of Fame Cristine Wilson Medal for Equality and Justice Nomination Form

The Iowa Commission on the Status of Women strives to recognize the contributions of Iowa women as well as the impact that individuals of all genders have made in improving the status of Iowa women. As part of that goal, the Cristine Wilson Medal for Equality and Justice was established in 1982, in honor of Cristine Wilson, the first chair of the statutory Commission. In accordance with 435 IAC 3.4, the medal is awarded on an intermittent basis to persons whose work is deemed outstanding and a significant contribution to Iowa's recognition as a state characterized by equality and justice.

About Cristine Swanson Wilson

Cristine Swanson Wilson's innovative spirit and hard work made the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame a reality. Wilson served on temporary Governor's commissions on women that evolved into the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women in 1972, the first permanent state agency for Women's concerns. As its first chair, Wilson fought for passage of anti-discriminatory laws in housing, credit, education, employment, and insurance; recognition of homemakers' contributions in inheritance tax determination; a model, progressive rape statute; provision for state funding and licensing of childcare centers; creation of a process by which more women could be appointed to state boards and commissions; and creation of the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame. As a women's movement pioneer, Wilson helped to found the Iowa Women's Political Caucus and served as the first woman chair of the Republican Party of Polk County's Platform committee. Her remarkable achievements have contributed to Iowa's recognition nationally as a state characterized by equality and justice. In 1982, the Commission established a Medal for Equality and Justice in her name, which is awarded to Iowans whose life and work illustrate such service and dedication. She was inducted into the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame in 1989.

Selection Process

Prior to 2016, the Cristine Wilson Medal for Equality and Justice Medal recipient was chosen by that year's Iowa Women's Hall of Fame selection committee. ***In 2016, the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women opened up the nomination process to the public and all former and current commissioners who serve(d) on the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women.*** Nominations for this award will be considered for three years.

Medal recipients will be recognized at a special Iowa Women's Hall of Fame ceremony in late August, on or close to Women's Equality Day, August 26 – the day women won the right to vote in the United States. The commission asks that all nominators of the medal recipient and the medal recipients appear at the ceremony, if physically able.

Nomination Process

To nominate an individual for this award, please complete this form and attach a short 500- to 1,000-word biography, along with a letter of recommendation describing why you believe this individual embodies the true spirit of equality and justice. This form, biography and a letter of recommendation should be electronically submitted to women@iowa.gov. If you need assistance, please contact the Office on the Status of Women at (515) 281-4470, (800) 558-4427, or women@iowa.gov.

Deadline for submission is April 1. No late or incomplete nominations will be accepted.

Nomination Criteria

When choosing someone to honor with this medal, please consider the following:

- Has the award nominee exemplified the life of Cristine Wilson by advocating for equity and justice, sometimes in the face of great opposition?
- Has the award nominee inspired others and served as a role model for equity and justice?
- The award nominee must be a current resident or former resident of Iowa.

Questions

If you have any questions, contact the Office on the Status of Women at 515-281-4470, 800/558-4427, or women@iowa.gov.

To view past recipients of the Cristine Wilson Medal for Equality and Justice, visit <https://humanrights.iowa.gov/cristine-wilson-award-recipients>.

CRISTINE WILSON MEDAL FOR EQUALITY AND JUSTICE NOMINATION FORM

Please provide the following information.

Name of nominee (*Indicate full name, and include birth name if different.*):

Residence of nominee (*Give Address if Possible*):

Phone numbers: (Home)

(Office)

E-mail:

Birthdate:

Birth place:

Years nominee resided in Iowa:

If the nominee is no longer living, complete the following:

Date of death:

Age at time of death:

Place of death:

Name, address, phone, and familial relationship of a family contact person, if known:

Name of person(s) submitting nomination:

Residence of nominator:

Phone numbers: (Home)

(Office)

E-mail:

Has this nomination form been reviewed by the nominee or a member of the nominee's family?

Yes No

Include the following (separated by the following sections):

1. Biographical Sketch

Please attach a brief biography (500 to 1,000 words) of the nominee that includes the individual's major achievements and contributions to his or her community. Biographical information can include education/training, professional/work history, major accomplishments and/or contributions, and honors and awards received. Include a description of the nominee's connection to Iowa (examples: born and raised in the state, educated here, most notable achievements in the state, etc.).

2. Letter of Recommendation (only one will be accepted)

Please include one letter of recommendation for the Cristine Wilson Medal for Equality and Justice Medal nominee, including why you feel that this individual embodies the true spirit of Cristine Wilson's legacy. Be sure to include the impact this individual has had on equality and justice.

Be aware that no materials will be returned to nominator, so please do not submit irreplaceable originals of any document. Keep a copy for your records.

DEADLINE: April 1

No late or incomplete nominations will be accepted.

NOMINATOR CERTIFICATION

I hereby state that I believe the individual nominated herein for the Cristine Wilson Medal for Equality and Justice is an individual whose work is outstanding and a significant contribution to Iowa's recognition as a state characterized by equality and justice.

Nominator's Signature

Date

The original nomination packet (this form and all of the above materials) should be electronically submitted to women@iowa.gov. If you need assistance, please contact the Office on the Status of Women at (515)281-4470, (800)558-4427, or women@iowa.gov.