



PRESS RELEASE

KIRKWOOD HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR ANNUAL AWARD

The Kirkwood Human Rights Commission is now accepting nominations for its esteemed Denis Hart Award for Excellence.

The deadline to apply is November 10th. The award is bestowed upon an individual (or individuals) who honors and embodies the values and mission of the KHRC. This includes having worked to foster respect for, awareness of, and appreciation for diversity. They should have encouraged positive human relations within the community and worked to eliminate discrimination based on economic status, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, diverse abilities, sexual orientation, familial status, or gender identity.

Eligibility for nomination extends to anyone who has lived in the City of Kirkwood or has conducted work that has affected the citizens or residents of Kirkwood during the past five years.

The award, previously known as the HRC Award of Excellence, was renamed in 2020 in honor of the late Denis Hart who chaired the HRC for six years.

Past recipients include Verneda Carrier in 2024, Tom Ptacek in 2023, Brandi Martine along with Douglas Riggs in 2021, and Roberta McWoods in 2020.

Nominations may be mailed to the Kirkwood Human Rights Commission at 139 S. Kirkwood Rd., Kirkwood 63122, or emailed to Jessica Winter at winterja@kirkwoodmo.org. All nominations must be submitted no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, November 10, 2025.

The awardee will be selected by the Commission and announced in January 2026.

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