

# Cedar Valley Women of Persimmon

**Nomination Form**

**Persimmon**, the YWCA color of strength and confidence

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*The YWCA Black Hawk County is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.*

## **Criteria for Cedar Valley Women of Persimmon Awards**

1. Consideration will be given to the ways in which the nominee exemplifies the mission of the YWCA. The nominee's contributions and degree of impact of her achievements may be in her neighborhood, community, state or nation. Those "behind the scenes" women as well as those in the public eye are considered.
2. The nominee must be a resident and/or work in the Cedar Valley area. Students attending educational institutions in Black Hawk or Bremer counties are also eligible.
3. If not selected as a Woman of Persimmon recipient, an individual may be nominated either in the same or in a different category in future years. Past Cedar Valley Women of Persimmon recipients are eligible to be nominated in another category after five years.

## **2025 Cedar Valley Women of Persimmon Award Categories**

- **Professional/Business Woman** – Any woman who has lived out the YWCA's mission, personally and professionally, by creating and advancing opportunities for all women to seek equality and self-sufficiency. Can be from any level of the business world: business owners, managers, employees and entrepreneurs; employed in either a for-profit or non-profit organization who demonstrates commitment, organizational effectiveness and ethical leadership.
- **Volunteer** – Any woman who has made a significant volunteer contribution to her community with respect to empowering all women without expecting or receiving remuneration.
- **Young Woman of Tomorrow** – Any young woman (age 18-25 years) who has demonstrated exceptional leadership, scholastic ability, volunteer service and/or special achievements.
- **Youth Advocate** – Any woman who is an advocate for the health and well-being of youth, either by engaging in advocacy efforts on behalf of youth or working directly with young people through nurture, empowerment and inspiration.
- **Business/Organization that Empowers Women** – Any business or organization that has proven its dedication to the advancement of women by empowering them socially, economically and professionally and has created and advanced opportunities for all women to seek equality and self-sufficiency.

### **Past Award Recipients –**

**Professional Woman** – Belinda Creighton-Smith, Kim Young-Kent, Charletta Sudduth, A'Lisa Walker, Julie Pitzen, Mary Ann Burk, Lisa Muñoz, Jean Trainor, Inez Murtha, Beverly Smith, Emily Girsch, Alicia Smiley, LaTanya Graves, Jennifer Christason, Amanda Mahncke, Denita Gadson, Tanya Warren, Jayme Renfro

**Volunteer Service** – Susie Heaton, Crystal Buzza, Christine Carpenter, Barbara Brown, Uyntha Duncan, Patricia Harper, Marcia Griffin, Myra Boots, Kristina Mehmen, Barbara Prust, Endya Johnson, Melanie Knipp, Maureen White, Doris Kelley, Lori Johnson, Jennifer Onuigbo, Jeanne Olson, Donna O'Brien

**Young Woman of Tomorrow** – Laura Edwards, Alesha Jones, Nikki Ann Bornong, Sunni Swarbrick, Amy Costliow, Olivia Hottle, Zohha Tariq, Larissa Crain, Victoria Hurst, Hsae Meh, Vanessa McNeal, Maggie Miller, Nilvia Brownson, Hannah Bockhaus, Devin O'Loughlin, Yadira Guzman, Lexi Gause, Madeline Hinz

**Youth Advocate** – Karen Grode, Rita Ferneau, Marcia Borwig, Ellen Vanderloo, Mary Lynn Hoard, Liz Crowley, Heidi Fuchtmann, Julie Ehlers, Jeannette Mukayisire, Aditi Rao, Laticia Aosse, Susan Langan, Amanda Goodman, Sunni Kegebien, Jena Seeland, Melanie Shayer, Desirae Holmes, Tierra Matlock

**Business/Organization that Empowers Women** – Seeds of Hope, Juliette Low Society, Iowa Heartland Habitat for Humanity, Clohesy Consulting, Beyond Pink TEAM, Splash of Color, UNI Feminist Action League, Visions Hair Studio, House of Hope, Waterloo Commission on Human Rights, Try Pie, UNI Center for Urban Education, UNI Women In Business, Lincoln Savings Bank, The Center of Attention, Riverview Center, Hawkeye Community College, Fifth Generation Natural Skin and Hair Care

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**YWCA Cedar Valley Women of Persimmon**  
**April 10, 2025**

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**Nomination  
Information  
& Guidelines**

1. Nominations are due **Friday, February 28, 2025** to:  
**Joyce Levingston, Executive Director** or [jlevingston@ywcabhc.org](mailto:jlevingston@ywcabhc.org)  
  
**YWCA Black Hawk County**  
  
**425 Lafayette**  
  
**Waterloo, IA 50703**
  
  2. Please feel free to involve the nominee in preparing the nomination material.
  
  3. Selection is based on information provided in areas noted as A, B and C (see following).
  
  4. If possible, please send nominations to [jlevingston@ywcabhc.org](mailto:jlevingston@ywcabhc.org), or drop off.
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**Nomination**

Please provide all information below (type or print):

**Requirement**

**A. Name of Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Business/Employer/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominated by:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Business/Employer/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Nomination for:**

(please check one)  Professional/Business Woman

- Volunteer
- Young Woman of Tomorrow
- Youth Advocate
- Business/Organization that Empowers Women

