

# Omar Bonderud Human Rights Award

## Bloomington Human Rights Commission

Seeking individuals or organizations who make the extra effort in ensuring human rights for Bloomington citizens. If you would like to nominate someone or an organization (business, volunteer or religious group) to receive well-deserved recognition, complete the enclosed application. Describe what the nominee has done in the field of human rights, based on our established criteria. The selected individual or organization will receive the Omar Bonderud Award at a Bloomington City Council meeting in December.

\*Omar Bonderud was the first chair of the Bloomington Human Rights Commission which was formed in 1968.



The nomination **deadline** is August 26, 2016

Send completed applications to:

Human Rights Commission

Bloomington Civic Plaza

1800 W. Old Shakopee Rd.

Bloomington, MN 55431

[humanrights@BloomingtonMN.gov](mailto:humanrights@BloomingtonMN.gov)

Fax 952-563-8715

If you have any questions, please call

952-563-8733, TTY 952-563-8740

**FIND US ONLINE!**  
[BloomingtonMN.gov](http://BloomingtonMN.gov)





## Bloomington Human Rights Commission Omar Bonderud Award Application Guidelines

### Award

Eligible recipients are individuals and/or organizations (business, volunteer, or religious groups) that have shown special efforts to ensure citizens of Bloomington equal opportunities in employment, housing, public accommodations, public services, and education. Contributions must represent a substantial effort toward educating, winning or preserving equality and justice for protected classes.

### Selection

A panel of judges will review the nominations. The Bloomington Human Rights Commission will select the recipient(s) of the Omar Bonderud Award.

### Recognition

Award recipient(s) will be recognized and receive a plaque at a Bloomington City Council meeting. Award recipient(s) may be video taped for promotion and recognition purposes. All footage becomes the property of the City of Bloomington.

### Criteria

- Necessary Criteria**
1. Nominee(s) MUST have lived, conducted business or volunteered in Bloomington during the time of their contribution or MUST HAVE accomplished their contribution to human rights in Bloomington to be considered for this award.
  2. The contribution MUST represent a substantial effort toward winning or preserving equality and justice for one or more groups of “protected classes” defined in the Minnesota Human Rights Act §363A, namely, those who may suffer discrimination because of *age, color, creed, dependence on public assistance, disability, familial status, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex and sexual orientation.*
- Factors Considered**
3. The contribution MAY be in the form of one act or a series of activities over a period of time, which should be cited specifically within the application.
  4. The Bloomington Human Rights Commission MAY give priority to the nominee(s) whose contributions had an impact on a substantial number of Bloomington residents.
  5. The Commission MAY give priority to the nominee(s) whose contributions affected more than one “protected class.”
  6. Priority MAY be given to nominee(s) who protect and/or enhance rights outside normal employment, instead of to person(s)/organizations who usually perform these services as part of their job description or business plan.
  7. The Commission MAY decide not to give an award.
  8. Bloomington Human Rights Commission members and City of Bloomington staff are ineligible for this award during the term of their service or for work accomplished for the Commission during their tenure. Individuals may receive the award after they leave the Commission for contributions before or after their service with the Commission or Bloomington employment.

*As adapted from the League of Minnesota Human Rights Commissions.*

Application deadline: **August 26, 2016**  
Bloomington Human Rights Commission  
1800 W. Old Shakopee Rd., Bloomington, MN 55431  
humanrights@BloomingtonMN.gov

## Omar Bonderud Human Rights Award Recipients

### 1974: Elbert Clark

Instigated hiring of minorities at Thermo King, in Bloomington, where he served as Industrial Relations Assistant.

### 1974: Robert Timppte

As Curriculum Coordinator for Bloomington high schools, introduced American Studies Program and Inter-Cultural History.

### 1975: Frances Berns

Sun-Current reporter/editor who was an activist for the rights of the disabled.

### 1975: David Cleary

Awarded for his work with persons who are mentally and physically disabled.

### 1977: Sally Bosanko

Former Human Rights Commissioner.

### 1977: Gail Cywinski

From Normandale Community College, organized Human Rights Day Observance.

### 1978: William V. Belanger, Jr.

State Senator who assisted the Commission in advocating for low and moderate income housing.

### 1978: Arlo Hasse

City staff member involved and committed to American Indian rights and culture.

### 1979: Evelyn Carter

Former Human Rights Commissioner and teacher in Bloomington schools.

### 1979: Donald Bartlette

City staff member coordinated the Office of Special Services. Served as a strong advocate for persons who are disabled.

### 1980: Patricia Helmberger

Former Human Rights Commissioner.

### 1980: Ellsworth Stenswick

Director of Special Education in Bloomington who worked with special needs children.

### 1981: Rev. Harry Stroessner

Former Human Rights Commissioner.

### 1983: Danny Berenberg

Owner of Lincoln Del who was recognized for his Kaiser Roll initiative and employment of persons with disabilities.

### 1988: Bill Kalina

Owner of Dave's Shoe Repair and an actively involved citizen who worked towards employing persons with disabilities.

### 1989: Decathlon Athletic Club

Awarded for their employment training program for persons with disabilities.

### 1989: Mavis Klefsaas

ESL teacher in Bloomington, who was actively involved in integrating new families into our community.

### 1989: Hedy Bolden

Teacher in Bloomington who established a multicultural education program for the School District.

### 1995: Yvonne Price

Former Human Rights Commissioner who was active in helping people with disabilities find housing and employment.

### 1996: Eloise Kelle

Indian Mounds Elementary School teacher promoted self-esteem and respect of cultural differences in the classroom and community. Committed to establishing global human rights practices.

### 1997: Bloomington Airport Marriott

Accommodated, mentored and provided job training, through a Vocational Internship Program for Bloomington students.

### 1998: Paven Malhotra

Youth member of the Human Rights Commission used education through hate crime workshops to improve student awareness.

### 1999: Flora Tsukayama

Committed to community leadership, promoting diversity, volunteering and mentoring. Provides cultural exchange programs with the city of Izumi, Japan.

### 2000: Progressive Technologies

Offered employment to people who are developmentally disabled, focusing on their abilities and gifts.

### 2001: Dr. Ghafar Lakanwal

Founded Minnesota Cultural Diversity Center, that promotes multicultural understanding and inclusiveness in the workplace and community.

### 2002: Seagate Technology's Diversity Action Council

Coordinated diversity training seminars, workshops and special events within the company to encourage understanding of cultures around them.

### 2003: The Toro Company

Promoted community projects and activities benefiting at-risk youth, elderly and civic organizations.

### 2004: Dinna Wade-Ardley

Diversity Coordinator for Bloomington Schools, 1995-2003. Started DDAC (District Diversity Advisory Council), 1995. Emphasized family involvement and collaboration with community agencies.

### 2004: Thomas Jefferson High School Diversity Committee

Made up of students, faculty and community organizations committed to an inclusive environment in which all students feel respected and valued.

### 2006: Larry Yazzie

International lecturer, educator, performer and world champion fancy dancer. Dedicated to understanding and promoting bridge building through traditional and cultural diversity.

### 2009: Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

An outstanding community organization with a long history of working with community partners to improve the lives of the diverse residents of Bloomington.

### 2012: Robert "Bob" Peters

Disability advocate and educator. Work includes first statewide handicapped parking legislation, accessibility design for Mall of America and patient care practices at the Courage Center and Sister Kenny Institute.

### 2013: Stephanie Hope Smith

Worked with the Dakota people on organization and implementation of the 2011 World Peace and Prayer Day.

### 2014: Frank White

Leader in Human Rights Commission activities including Dred and Harriet Scott recognition and Black History in Baseball.

### 2014: Cornerstone

Statewide human trafficking program entitled, "Day One," focuses on sexual exploitation, safe harbor law and no wrong door models that protect victims of trafficking.

### 2015: U.S. Chief Judge Michael J. Davis and Judge Donovan Frank

Committed to equal justice through innovative programs implemented during their tenure in the U.S. Supreme Courts. Programs include the Dred and Harriet Scott: Legacy of Courage and Freedom, local naturalization ceremonies, Freedom Riders exhibit, Mr. Civil Rights: Thurgood Marshall, and the 25th Anniversary of the American's with Disabilities Act celebration.

The City of Bloomington does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its services, programs, or activities. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all City of Bloomington services, programs, and activities. Upon request, this information can be available in Braille, large print, audio tape and/or computer disk.