



NYSBA

2015 DIVERSITY TRAILBLAZER AWARDS
Presented by the Committee on Diversity and Inclusion

Call for Nominations



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2015 Diversity Trailblazer Award

Presented by the Committee on Diversity and Inclusion

The New York State Bar Association's Committee on Diversity and Inclusion seeks nominations for the 2015 Diversity Trailblazer Award, which recognizes exceptional efforts to promote the full and equal participation of diverse people at all levels of the legal profession.

The nomination form is available online at www.nysba.org/2015TrailblazerAwardNomForm. Nominations will be accepted until Wednesday, September 17, 2014. Please e-mail a PDF of your completed nomination form and attachments to bdonlon@nysba.org, or fax your completed form and attachments to Bridget Donlon at 518.487.5541.

The Diversity Trailblazer Award will be presented prior to the Association's Eleventh Annual Celebrating Diversity in the Bar Reception, on Monday, January 26, 2015, during the NYSBA Annual Meeting in New York City.

The recipient will receive a recognition award and a complimentary one-year membership in the Association.

Criteria for the Diversity Trailblazer Award

Each Diversity Trailblazer presents a unique blend of experience (from up-and-coming to lifetime), skills, accomplishments, and other qualities. The Committee will consider the nominee's trailblazing efforts in one or more of the following ways:

1. Promoting inclusive workplaces, seeking to address the unique needs of those from diverse backgrounds, and advocating for equal opportunity for diverse individuals in the legal profession. For example, creating affinity groups, diversity committees, or otherwise increasing opportunities for diverse individuals in the profession, including the judiciary.
2. Supporting and encouraging diverse individuals to reach their legal career and personal goals and ensuring opportunities for the advancement of diverse attorneys. For example, serving as a speaker, firm or association leader, or mentor or other participant in one or more pipeline programs.
3. Creating organizational change and establishing an inclusive work environment. For example, fostering leadership development, innovation and knowledge sharing aimed at enhancing the status of diverse individuals in the legal profession, providing research and study or development of educational programming on issues of importance to diverse individuals throughout the legal community.
4. Publicizing the distinct and vital contributions diverse individuals make to the legal profession. For example, promoting pro bono legal representation and service to diversity causes and announcing enhanced opportunities on behalf of diverse individuals in the New York State Bar Association or other bar associations, and advocating for the rights of those from diverse backgrounds.
5. Using the power and resources to advance the position of diverse individuals in the legal profession and in their community. For example, exhibiting efforts to diversify the legal profession through community involvement, collaboration amongst members of the legal and civic community, and corporate or law firm commitments to diversity.

Terms and Conditions

New York attorneys, whether practicing or not, are eligible. Nominees may be contacted for additional information or interviews.

Diversity Trailblazer Award Past Recipients

- 2014 – Darryl M. Gibbs, Lead Director and Associate General Counsel, Contract Management, AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company
- 2013 – Lillian M. Moy, Executive Director, Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York
- 2012 – Professor Jenny Rivera, City University of New York School of Law
- 2012 – Paul T. Williams, Jr., President, Dormitory Authority of the State of New York
- 2012 – Joseph Maron Hanna, Partner, Goldberg Segalla LLP
- 2011 – Hon. Theodore Jones, Associate Judge, New York State Court of Appeals
- 2011 – Sharon Y. Bowen, Partner, Latham & Watkins, LLP
- 2010 – Leonard M. Baynes, Professor, St. John's University School of Law
- 2009 – Laurie Robinson, founder and CEO of Corporate Counsel Women of Color
- 2008 – Taa Grays, Assistant General Counsel, MetLife
- 2007 – Carol A. Robles-Roman, Deputy Mayor and Counsel to New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg
- 2006 – Hon. George Bundy Smith
- 2006 – Hon. George Leighton
- 2006 – Hon. Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick

2015 DIVERSITY TRAILBLAZER AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Nominations Must Be Received No Later Than Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Candidate: _____

Title (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail address: _____

Nominator: _____

Title (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail address: _____

Has the candidate won any award recognizing his or her diversity efforts from any other organization? ___ Yes ___ No
If yes, please detail below:

Please attach:

1. A supporting statement of no longer than 750 words, describing how and why the nominee deserves the Diversity Trailblazer Award. Include information that relates to the above criteria and other details, such as the quantitative and qualitative impact of the nominee's trailblazing efforts.
2. Letters of support from up to three individuals who would be willing to be interviewed to enable the Committee to learn more about the nominee.



NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

2015 DIVERSITY TRAILBLAZER AWARD

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