

**Stanislaus County Commission for Women
Tips for Submitting a Successful Nomination – rev. 2016**

Due Dates

- Nominations received after the submission deadline will not be accepted.
- A woman can only be honored one time. Make sure she is not a previous recipient.
- A woman who has been previously nominated but not selected can be nominated again.

Nomination Form

- Complete all information
- Category - Outstanding Woman, Outstanding Young Woman, Woman of History or Living Pioneer
- Nominee's residency in Stanislaus County for 3 or more years
- Accurate contact information for you and your nominee for questions about your nomination and notification purposes

Writing the Narrative

- Focus on the accomplishments and work of the nominee.
- We are looking for her work, her accomplishments and her affiliations.
- If she is a member of the Rotary Club, we want to know, but we do not require a detailed account of the history and purpose of Rotary.

Above and Beyond

We recognize that there are many exceptional working women in Stanislaus County. Our Outstanding Women recognition is designed to honor women who are doing more: working and volunteering their time to improve their community and the status of women and girls. We are also looking for trailblazers, for example: the first woman in the county to serve on the Board of Supervisors, the first female poet laureate of Stanislaus County or the first woman to chair the math department. A nomination that focuses only on the nominee's work history (for which she gets paid) is not likely to be selected, regardless of how well she does her job.

Selection Process

A small selection committee consisting of SCCW board members and past honorees selects the current year's recipients. The committee seeks to select a diverse group of recipients with regard to geographic location, ethnicity, culture, professional or volunteer focus and other factors. For example, if we receive 10 nominations for women working in the field of education, we are unlikely to select all of them. We also emphasize the following criteria when making our selections:

- Concern for women/children in the community
- Work in community organizations/volunteerism
- Leadership roles in professional/volunteer activities
- Self-direction
- Achievement in degrees/certificates/honors
- Overcoming adversity
- Your nomination should clearly and succinctly address the nominee's achievements in each of these areas (as applicable).

Additional Information

We know your nominee possesses numerous positive character traits, is an exceptional human being and that you believe in her. If these things were not true, you would not nominate her for this award. While your enthusiasm is appreciated, please avoid making your feelings about the nominee the center of your nomination. The nominee's tangible accomplishments and work in the community should comprise the bulk of the nomination. We certainly do not want to overlook a nominee who has accomplished much, but whose nominator did not provide enough focus on her work. Selections are made based on the information contained in the nomination, so remember to present the most complete picture possible.

Young Women

Please include a comprehensive overview:

- Academic achievement

- Extra-curricular activities

- Leadership roles

- Creation of new campus organizations or projects

- Community involvement

- Ways the student has overcome adversity, if applicable

High grade point averages and academic achievements are not required to be honored, but recipients do receive scholarship monies, so generally should have educational goals post-high school. These educational goals are not restricted to college/university attendance.

Woman of History

This category is a posthumous award. All other points included here apply.

Living Pioneer

This category was created to honor women whose primary accomplishments pre-date our award (prior to 1980). A women might be nominated as an Outstanding Woman, but could be moved to this category by the selection committee because she meets the criteria of Living Pioneer. If this is the case, a committee member will contact you to discuss. All other points included here apply.