



2021  
Taste of Diversity  
Awards Packet

Submit letters of nomination to Katie Tillinger at [ktillinger@ocba.org](mailto:ktillinger@ocba.org) by  
Friday, August 20, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

# THE LEON HUBBARD COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

## Sponsored By

Oakland County Bar Association

## Established

1994

## Purpose

To celebrate and promote an awareness of the rich cultural diversity of Oakland County by recognizing and honoring an individual or law firm, legal services or other law-related organization that has a record of community service, has promoted cultural diversity, advanced social equality, and worked to enhance the quality of life for all people.

## Awarded

Taste of Diversity Event

## Criteria

- An attorney or law firm with a minimum of five years of community service experience. The five years may be inclusive of time spent in community service as a law student.
- Qualifying community service experience is defined as service rendered on an independent and individual basis, membership in and/or support of an organization whose mission is to promote diversity in economic advancement opportunities and/or social equality.
- Economic advancement opportunities include promotion of diversity in the areas of the legal profession, mentoring, career counseling, and small business development. It also includes philanthropy.
- Social equality includes promotion of improvement in the quality of life to indigent individuals and/or advancing the concept of open housing for all people.

## How to Nominate

Letter of Nomination including description of nominee's community service.

## Selection Process

The OCBA's Diversity and Inclusion Committee selects the awardee.

## Past Recipients

1994	Honorable David F. Breck		Martin I. Reisig
1995	Honorable Damon J. Keith	2005	Honorable Fred M. Mester
1996	Honorable Leo Bowman	2007	Michael K. Lee
1997	Leroy C. Richie, Esq.	2008	E. Christopher Johnson Jr.
1998	Linda Bernard, Esq.	2010	Michael J. Lavoie
	H. William Freeman, Esq.	2012	Pilchak, Cohen & Tice, P.C.
1999	H. Wallace Parker, Esq.	2015	Cheryl A. Bush
2000	Terrance A. Keith	2017	Clarence M. Dass
2001	Earlene Baggett-Hayes	2019	James J. Parks
2003	Elias J. Escobedo Jr.		

# **MICHAEL K. LEE MEMORIAL AWARD RECOGNIZING DIVERSITY**

## Sponsored By

Oakland County Bar Association – Diversity in the Legal Profession Committee

## Established

2015

## Purpose

To celebrate diversity and to promote an awareness of the need for increased diversity in the legal profession by honoring an individual, law firm, legal service, or other law-related organization (“award recipient”) that has a demonstrated record of promoting cultural diversity in the legal community through its participation in pipeline programs and through their commitment to the tenets set forth in the mission<sup>1</sup> statement of the Diversity in the Legal Profession Committee.

To recognize attorney Michael K. Lee’s commitment to the Diversity in the Legal Profession Committee’s mission statement as well as its commitment to promoting participation in the activities and governance of the OCBA of lawyers representing the full array of diversity. Specifically, this award recognizes an award recipient who not only expresses a desire to achieve diversity in the legal profession but also actively works in various pipeline programs committed to introducing individuals with diverse backgrounds to the legal profession.

## Awarded

- The award will be presented at the biennial Diversity in the Legal Profession Dinner.
- The award recipient will be subsequently recognized at the OCBA Annual Meeting along with the other award recipients.

## Criteria

- The award recipient actively participates in one or more pipeline programs<sup>2</sup> and that participation exists for a minimum of three years.
- The award recipient takes a leadership role in the implementation and development of pipeline (or similar) programs that provide equal opportunity for all individuals seeking a career in the legal profession to gain exposure to the same.

---

<sup>1</sup> The mission of the Diversity in the Legal Profession Committee is to increase awareness in the Oakland County legal community of the need to provide equal opportunity for all lawyers and support personnel through education and programs sponsored by the Oakland County Bar Association and in collaboration with other legal organizations, and to promote participation in the activities and governance of the Oakland County Bar Association of lawyers with all varieties of diverse backgrounds.

<sup>2</sup> Examples of pipeline programs that OCBA or its members have participated in are:

- The Law Related Education Committee coordinates the Elementary Mock Trial program with second- through sixth-grade teachers.
- The Law Related Education Committee hosts a Constitution Day program at Pontiac middle schools.
- Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School students participate in a program called Success on Saturday.
- The Diversity Committee participates in a Just the Beginning Foundation (“JTBF”) event hosted by United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, which is held at Oakland University.
- Street Law and General Motors Corporation (Detroit) partnered together to increase student knowledge and interest in the law and legal careers.
- The Diversity Committee participates in the College Pre-law Summer Institute, which is co-sponsored by CLEO, Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School (“Cooley Law School”), and Oakland University.

- The award recipient actively works with other legal organizations to promote participation in pipeline programs that support all facets of diversity in the legal profession.
- The award recipient provides mentorship to an individual with a diverse background and encourages that individual's participation in a pipeline program and pursuit of a career in the legal profession.

#### How to Nominate

Letter of Nomination includes a description of nominee's community service supporting diversity and pipeline programming.

#### Selection Process

The Oakland County Bar Association's Diversity and Inclusion Committee or its designee selects the awardee.

#### Past Recipients

2015	John R. Nussbaumer
2017	Lori J. Frank Jennifer M. Grieco
2019	D. Augustus Straker Bar Association