



**COMMUNITY
PHILANTHROPY SUMMIT**

A FORUM FOR DONORS, CHARITIES, AND ESTATE PLANNERS



San Joaquin County Nonprofit Leadership Awards

Call for Nominations Form

The CPS 2026 SJC Nonprofit Leadership Awards recognize and honor outstanding achievements by individuals, volunteers, foundations, and organizations whose leadership and commitment to philanthropy significantly improve the quality of life in the San Joaquin Valley. The awards are presented at the 2026 **Community Philanthropy Summit Luncheon on Thursday, May 28, 2026, at University Plaza Waterfront Hotel, 110 West Fremont Street, Stockton.**

Select the award category (select only one)

- Outstanding Philanthropist
- Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser
- Outstanding Nonprofit

About the Nominee

Name of Nominee: _____

Contact Person (for corporation/organization): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ CA: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Submitted by

Name of Nominator (individual or organization): _____

Contact Person (for corporation/organization): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ CA: _____

Submission Due Date: April 16, 2026

Nomination Guidelines

Nominations will be accepted from **March 14, 2026- April 16,2026** and must include:

- Nomination form
- Essay based on the criteria for the nomination category.
- Letter(s) of support (max of 2) – optional.
- Questions are included on the form to guide you. No more than two pages of information.
- An individual or an organization may submit nominations for any award.
- If possible, include a brief bio and headshot for publicity purposes.
- Supporting documents (brochures, videos, newspaper articles, etc.) are not allowed.
- Collaborative nominations are encouraged.
- Incomplete submissions will not be considered. Nominations will not be accepted after the deadline.

Submission Instructions

Submissions should be emailed, and the attachments listed above should be included. The subject line must state the nominee's full name and the award category.

Ex. Subject Line: John Smith, Outstanding Philanthropist

Submission Due Date: April 16, 2026, by 5 pm

If you have any questions, please contact:

Diane Vigil, Nominations Chair, at dianevigil@me.com or call. (209) 403-6121

Selection Process & Eligibility

SJC Nonprofit Leadership Awards Selection Committee members review and score all nominations according to the criteria provided (see below). The Awards Selection Committee will include community leaders, previous honorees, and nonprofit leadership not nominated.

As listed below, nominations are evaluated using scoring criteria specific to each award category. For nominations to be considered complete, each scoring criterion must be addressed separately, and incomplete nominations will not be considered. The most compelling nominations address in measurable ways how the nominee has directly impacted specific organizations and causes. Judges may choose not to present an award for any category where no nominee meets the criteria. All decisions of the Selection Committee are final.

Previous honorees are ineligible for seven (7) years after receipt of their award.

Award Categories & Criteria

Outstanding Philanthropist Award

This award is presented to an individual, couple, or family with a proven record of exceptional generosity who, through direct financial support, has demonstrated outstanding civic and charitable responsibility and whose generosity encourages others to take philanthropic leadership roles in the California Capital region, or at a national and/or international level.

1. Describe the nominee's participation in and direct financial support of nonprofit organizations in our community and the impact of the nominee's gift and work on the organizations and the community.
2. Provide evidence of the nominee's work in encouraging and motivating others to take leadership roles in philanthropy (i.e., challenge gifts, matching gifts, volunteering, etc.)
3. Describe the nominee's leadership and/or philanthropic support of innovative, creative, or collaborative approaches to addressing community needs.

Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser Award

The award is presented to an individual, couple, or family that has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills in coordinating groups of volunteers for major fundraising projects of one or more non-profit organizations. The recipient should demonstrate exceptional skills in coordinating and motivating volunteers for the benefit of charitable institutions and a personal commitment to the advancement of philanthropy.

1. Provide evidence of the nominee's ability to organize, lead, and manage campaigns and volunteer groups for fundraising efforts to support one or more nonprofit organizations. Include details of the nominee's time, effort, and personal philanthropic commitments.
2. Describe the impact the nominee's efforts had on the organization's ability to provide programs and services and the impact on the community.
3. Provide evidence of the nominee's ability to lead, manage, motivate, and inspire others and success in recruiting and motivating others' philanthropy.

The Outstanding Nonprofit Award

Recognizes a corporate, non-corporate (*service clubs, etc.*), or foundation that displays an outstanding commitment to philanthropy through financial or in-kind support; encourages and motivates its employees and others to take leadership roles in philanthropy and community involvement activities. *The nomination should include examples of the following:*

- Evidence of financial and in-kind philanthropic support. Philanthropy must include local contributions but can also include national and/or international activities.
- Description of impact and achievements of gift support
- Evidence of leadership roles in philanthropy and community involvement
- Description of the impact of gift support
- Description of achievements accomplished because of philanthropic support

Award Narrative

Will the nominee be able to attend the CPS2026 event on May 28, 2026 at University Plaza Waterfront Hotel should they be selected as the winner? Yes No

In one or two paragraphs, why does the nominee deserve the award?

Share one or two examples of how the nominee has exemplified the philanthropic spirit in our Greater San Joaquin region.

Award Narrative Continued

Is there anything else you would like to add concerning why the nominee deserves this year's award recipient?