

# 2026 CELEBRATION OF HEROES



PRESENTING THE GUARDIAN AWARDS

*Celebration of Heroes honors Kansas Citizens who support veterans in our community.*

## AWARD CATEGORIES

### Individual Guardian Award

In honor of those who directly serve veterans through work or as a volunteer.

- ***The Art Fillmore Veteran Award***
- ***Volunteer/Service Professional***

### Organization Guardian Award

In honor of those who have a mission to improve the lives of veterans

- ***Service organization/Foundation***

### Corporate Guardian Award

In honor of those who demonstrate employment best practices to attract, hire and retain veterans in the workforce or support veterans in their communities.

### Nominee Criteria

- ▶ Nominee has made a significant and recognizable influence in serving our veteran community with a demonstration of leadership.
- ▶ An individual/organization/company may nominate themselves.
- ▶ National organizations with a local presence are eligible.

### Award and Selection Process

- 1 Nominations are due by April 1. Complete the nomination form and nominee story and submit to [sengel@smvets.org](mailto:sengel@smvets.org).
- 2 Nominations will be evaluated by an Awards Selection Committee with final approval by the SMVC Board of Directors.
- 3 All nominees will be informed if they are selected as the honree by April 15.
- 4 As a nominator, you will be informed of receipt of the nomination as well as the result of the evaluation following the selection process.

*Please complete the nomination form on the back or complete it online at [smvets.org/celebration-of-heroes](http://smvets.org/celebration-of-heroes)*

Visit the Celebration of Heroes website for event details, including date and location.  
[smvets.org/celebration-of-heroes](http://smvets.org/celebration-of-heroes)

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## NOMINATION FORM

Deadline for submission: **04/01** | Selection and notification to all nominees: **04/15**

### Nominee Information

Nominee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Nominator Information

Nominator Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Select the Award Category for which you are submitting a nomination:

#### Individual Guardian Awards

- Art Fillmore Veteran Award
- Volunteer/Service Professional

#### Organization Guardian Awards

- Service Organization/Foundation

#### Corporate Guardian Awards

- Corporate Guardian Award

### Nominee Story

In a separate document, please describe how the nominee is improving the lives of veterans in our community. Please detail the nominee's activities, accomplishments, impact and influence. You may attach examples of their work.

Complete this Nomination Form and the Nominee Story and submit both to [sengel@smvets.org](mailto:sengel@smvets.org) or mail to: **St. Michael's Veterans Center, 3818 Chelsea Drive, Kansas City, MO 64128.**

**Questions?** Please call 816-921-0201 or email [sengel@smvets.org](mailto:sengel@smvets.org).