

**NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
2022 HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS AWARDS
NOMINATION FORM**

Click [here](#) to submit on-line application form.

**All Nomination Application Forms and Supporting Materials
Should Be Submitted Online!**

- | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - César Chávez Acción y Compromiso HCR Award - Ellison S. Onizuka Memorial Award - George I. Sánchez Memorial Award - H. Councill Trenholm Memorial Award (Black) - Leo Reano Memorial Award - Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Award - Mary Hatwood Futrell HCR Award | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reg Weaver Human and Civil Rights Award - Rosa Parks Memorial Award - Rosena J. Willis Memorial Award (Local Affiliate) - SuAnne Big Crow Memorial Award - Virginia Uribe Memorial Award for Creative Leadership in Human Rights |
|---|--|

Indicate Nomination Award Category _____

Will this Nominee be submitted for another award category?

NO YES*

Nominators must submit a separate nomination application form for each nominee for each specific nominating award category. **Please note that it is not favorable for nominators to duplicate award nominations across multiple award categories. In fact, doing so may detract from the nominee's success if the nominee does not appropriately meet the award criteria. Please only nominate for the award category and criteria that best match the qualifications of the nominee.*

NOMINEE INFORMATION (must be an NEA member if eligible for membership)

NEA MEMBER NON-MEMBER

(Complete state/local information only if nominee is an NEA member, and include NEA membership ID# or the last four digits of the social security number to facilitate verification of NEA membership. (Please note that the nominee must be an NEA member if they are eligible for NEA membership). We highly recommend you notify your state president that you are submitting a nomination.

Please note: Nominations that do not meet the criteria may not be considered.

Nominee First and Last Name or Organization Title:		Nominee's NEA membership ID# or last four digits of SS# number to verify membership (if applicable):	
Nominee/Organization Preferred Mailing Address:			
City:	State:	Zip Code:	
Country:			
Nominee Work Address (If an Individual)/Business Address (If an Organization):			
City:	State:	Zip Code:	State in which nominee works if different from state they reside in:

<i>Country of Business:</i>				
<i>Nominee Preferred Phone Number/ Organization Main Line:</i>	<i>Please indicate if preferred number given is:</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Home</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Mobile</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Work</i>	<i>Nominee/Organization Work Phone:</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Extension:</i>	<i>Fax:</i>	<i>Preferred E-mail Address:</i>
<i>Nominee's State Association President (if applicable):</i>		<i>Work Daytime Phone:</i>	<i>Fax:</i>	<i>E-mail Address for Nominee's State President (please leave blank if unknown):</i>
<i>Nominee's Local Association President:</i>		<i>Work Daytime Phone:</i>	<i>Fax:</i>	<i>E-mail Address for Nominee's Local President (please leave blank if unknown):</i>
<p><i>If chosen, to the best of your knowledge, will this nominee be available to attend the 2022 Human and Civil Rights awards ceremony in-person or virtually on July 2, 2022 to accept their award?</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Absolutely Yes. <i>The nominee is aware that they are being nominated and, if selected, have confirmed that they would be available to travel and attend in person.</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I think so. <i>This nomination is a surprise to the nominee, so while I have not contacted them directly, they should be able to travel and attend in person, if selected.</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I am unsure. <i>This nominee is a celebrity and/or otherwise high-profile individual and I do not have direct contact with them, therefore I am unsure of their availability to attend.</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. <i>This nominee will not be able to attend the ceremony.</i></p> <p><i>If you selected NO above, please provide an explanation as to why the nominee would be unable to travel and/or send a representative to accept the award in person.</i></p>				

NOMINATOR INFORMATION (must be an NEA member)

NEA MEMBER

NEA AFFILIATE

NEA CAUCUS

<i>Nominator First and Last Name (If Affiliate or Caucus – please be sure to include a contact person’s name):</i>		<i>Nominator’s NEA Membership ID# or last four digits of SS# number to verify membership: (Note: Nominator must be an NEA member.)</i>		
<i>Nominator’s Address:</i>				
<i>City:</i>		<i>State:</i>	<i>Zip Code:</i>	
<i>Country:</i>				
<i>Nominator’s Preferred Phone:</i>	<i>Nominator’s Cell Phone:</i>	<i>Nominator’s Home Phone:</i>	<i>Fax:</i>	<i>E-mail Address:</i>
<i>Nominator’s State Association President:</i>		<i>Daytime Phone:</i>	<i>Fax:</i>	<i>E-mail Address:</i>
<i>NEA Caucus Chairperson (needed if nominated by a Caucus):</i>		<i>Daytime Phone:</i>	<i>Fax:</i>	<i>E-mail Address:</i>
<i>Nominator’s Local Association President:</i>		<i>Daytime Phone:</i>	<i>Fax:</i>	<i>E-mail Address:</i>
<p><i>As the nominator, it is important to know your direct connection with the nominee for planning and outreach purposes. With this information, please complete the below information accordingly:</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>I know the nominee and have direct contact with them. If needed, I could support the NEA staff in contacting the nominee should they be selected.</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>I do not know the nominee and have no direct contact with them.</i></p>				

Complete this *Nomination Form*, the appropriate *Criteria Eligibility Form*, and the *Nomination Materials/Organizing Form* and **submit online** at www.nea.org/hcrawards **no later than December 10, 2021.**

Supporting materials that cannot be submitted online, may be accepted via mail and must be **postmarked no later than December 10, 2021**, to: NEA Human and Civil Rights, Attn: Shannon Nephew, 1201 16th St. N.W., Suite 410, Washington, DC 20036-3290. For questions, please email NEAHCRAwards@nea.org.

General Nomination Eligibility Form

***Please read these instructions carefully and thoroughly before beginning the nomination process. You will not be able to proceed until you have agreed to these terms and instructions.**

Nominations that do not meet these criteria may not be considered.

NEA

1. Accepts nominations without regard to race, color, creed, gender, sexual orientation, or national origin.
2. Reserves the right to present no award, to select a nominee other than the person(s) or organization nominated for an award, or to move a nominee to another award category.
3. Presents awards to nominees as selected by the NEA Human and Civil Rights Awards Committee and approved by the NEA Executive Committee.

Nominees

1. May be an individual(s), schools, NEA affiliates, or organizations working in the area of human and civil rights.
2. Must be an NEA member(s) if eligible for membership. To facilitate our verification, please be sure to include the membership ID or last four digits of the social security number.
3. Must have engaged in human and civil rights activities that have community-wide impact.
4. Must **not** have performed the activities that meet the awards criteria as part of compensated Association staff responsibilities (paid full- or part-time local, state, and national staff), unless noted differently in award criteria.

Nominators

1. Must be an NEA member, affiliate, or caucus.
2. Must make each nomination for a specific award category.
3. Must submit a separate nomination application form for each nominee/nominating award category.

Nominations

1. All nomination materials, including supporting documents, **must be submitted online** at www.nea.org/hcraawards. Please email NEAHCRAwards@nea.org with questions. All sections of the Nomination Application below must be completed and submitted online:

Human and Civil Rights Awards Nomination Form (not considered part of the supporting materials)

- Be sure to include nominator's NEA membership ID number **or** last four digits of Social Security Number to facilitate an NEA membership check. If the nominee is eligible for membership, please provide his/her NEA membership ID number **or** last four digits of Social Security Number to facilitate an NEA membership check.

Criteria Eligibility Form (not considered part of the supporting materials)

- Complete official Criteria Eligibility Form for selected category that briefly highlights how your nominee meets **ONE** or **MORE** of the award criteria within the block space provided.

Nomination Supporting Materials/Organizing Form - All supporting materials must be clearly titled and identified in the corresponding Nomination Supporting Materials/Organizing Form. Supporting materials must be uploaded and submitted online. *Please note that quality of supporting materials rather than quantity is preferred. Please select and submit supporting documents that best represent the nominee. **Photo and resume of the nominee are mandatory**.* Some examples of supporting materials are:

- Nominee's Photo (**mandatory; not considered part of the supporting materials**)
 - Nominee's photo must be uploaded and submitted online in .jpeg format;
 - Nominee's photo must be of high quality for reproduction purposes;
- Nominee's resumé or Organization's Information (**mandatory; not considered part of the supporting materials**)
 - This section may be up to 2 pages single-spaced or 4 pages double-spaced of Times New Roman 12 pt.;
 - Nominee's resume must be uploaded and submitted online in .pdf or Microsoft Word format;
 - Nominee's resume may be up to 2 pages single-spaced or 4 pages double-spaced of Times New Roman 12 pt. font **only**;
 - An organization's information may include a fact sheet, history, and/or background information as the resumé;
- Additional information supporting criteria eligibility;
- Letters of recommendation – up to 3 (**Note: Letters of recommendation must be uploaded in Microsoft Word or .pdf format**);
 - Letters of recommendation should be on letterhead and be no longer than one page single spaced.
 - Letter of recommendation **must be signed** and must detail within its contents a descriptor of the recommender and/or explain how the recommender is affiliated with the nominee.
- News clippings/flyers, etc. (**Note: .pdf files may be uploaded and attached to the Nomination Application and/or links to website articles can be uploaded. Scanned .pdf files of articles or newspapers must be legible or they will not be considered**);
- Video files or youtube links of the nominee that support the eligibility criteria;
- Other materials as listed under Supporting Materials in official Nomination Application.
- If you have additional supporting materials or pieces of information about the nominee that you feel would strongly support their profile; but that cannot be submitted online; please contact Alexandria Richardson at ARichardson@nea.org. On a case by case basis, these items may be mailed in and must be postmarked no later than **December 10, 2021**. Mailed items will not be accepted if they can be submitted online.

Nomination applications must be submitted online on or before December 10, 2021. Nominate and submit online at www.nea.org/hcawards.

Any additional supporting materials that are mailed, must be postmarked on or before December 10, 2021 and mailed to:

NEA Human and Civil Rights
Attn: Shannon Nephew
1201 16th St., N.W.
Suite 410
Washington, DC 20036-3290
snephew@nea.org

Supporting Materials

1. For each nominee, nominators may submit supporting materials online via the **Nomination Materials/Organizing Form**. All supporting materials must be clearly titled and identified in the form. **Supporting materials must be uploaded and submitted online.**
2. Nominators must submit a current professional quality photograph of the nominee. **Images must be uploaded and saved online in .jpeg format.** *Scanned photos are acceptable as well.*
3. Nominators may submit a resumé for the nominee or organization. **Resumés must be uploaded, saved, and submitted online in Microsoft Word or .pdf formats.** It may be up to 2 pages single-spaced and 4 pages double-spaced in Times New Roman 12-point font. An organization's information may include a fact sheet, history, and/or background information.
4. All additional supporting materials must relate to the specific awards criteria for which the individual, association, or organization is being nominated. (See the "**Criteria Eligibility Form**" for each award, included in the nomination materials).
5. Appropriate supporting materials may include scanned or linked newspaper, newsletter, and magazine articles; scanned printed programs; up to 3 pages of certificates and/or citations; up to 3 letters of support (**must be uploaded in Microsoft Word or .pdf format**); photographs; YouTube video links of the nominee at work or that details the nominee's work and impact, and similar materials. The submission may include one CD or DVD, no longer than 15 minutes in length, as an example of the nominee's work.
6. Use the "**Nominations Materials/Organizing Form**" to list and describe all supporting materials. All items must be properly numbered, labeled, and arranged in an orderly, sequential manner. Page numbers begin with the supporting materials.
7. Completed nominations applications and all supporting materials must be submitted online at www.nea.org/hcrawards no later than **December 10, 2021**. Any additional materials that **are not accepted online** can be mailed in and must be postmarked no later than December 10, 2021. Please note all items in Supporting Materials online.
8. Nominations that do not meet the submission criteria may not be considered.

Nomination Materials/Organizing Form

Please title and briefly describe your supporting materials in the list below. *Organize material in order of criteria met and label accordingly.* All supporting material files must be uploaded online, saved and submit with the full nomination application. Examples of supporting materials are: Letters of recommendation, video profiles or YouTube video links of nominee, additional information supporting the nominee's criteria eligibility, news clippings and articles about the nominee and their work, etc.

Number of supporting material items submitted: _____

List and describe the supporting items:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

César Chávez Acción y Compromiso Human and Civil Rights Award

César Chávez (1927-1993), justifiably revered the labor and civil rights movements, inspired thousands of farm workers to unionize for dignity and to attain contracts that would give them livable wages and working conditions. Against great odds, he established the United Farm Workers of America and used the strike (la huelga), the boycott, and fasting to gain a better life for oppressed workers. Although he initially organized Mexican American workers in the Southwest, Chávez later expanded the movement to involve other ethnic groups.

NEA presents the César Chávez Acción y Compromiso Human and Civil Rights Award to a nominee who follows in the footsteps of César Chávez in philosophy, work, and leadership.

To be eligible for this award, the nominee(s) must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Engage in activities that dignify workers and their jobs and give them hope for a better life.
- Exemplify the nonviolent philosophy of César Chávez in improving the status of labor and the lives of workers.
- Demonstrate devotion, resilience, and strength in organizing traditionally disadvantaged workers.
- Combine labor relations techniques and grassroots organizing to achieve improvements in working conditions.
- Make notable contributions to the labor movement through commitment, action, and negotiation.
- Organize across racially/ethnically diverse groups to support and empower disadvantaged workers and their families.

In the prompt box below, please explain in detail how your nominee meets one or more of the criteria listed above. Feel free to speak to the criteria language directly in your response. (*Responses should be no more than 1,000 words.*)

Ellison S. Onizuka Memorial Award

Ellison S. Onizuka (1946-1986) was a Japanese American aerospace engineer. The first Asian/Pacific Islander chosen by NASA for the astronaut program, Onizuka served as a mission specialist on the space shuttle Challenger, which exploded on January 28, 1986, killing all aboard. Onizuka credited Hawaii's public schools for encouraging students to set goals and to work hard to achieve them.

NEA presents the Ellison S. Onizuka Memorial Award to a nominee whose activities in Asian/Pacific Islander affairs have made a significant impact on education and the achievement of equal opportunity for Asians/Pacific Islanders.

To be eligible for this award, the nominee(s) must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Increase the public's understanding of and appreciation for the heritage of Asian/Pacific Islanders.
- Develop and implement a bilingual, multicultural educational program that impacts a school system or a large portion of a community.
- Lobby for legislation that positively affects Asian/Pacific Islanders.
- Work actively with a community to improve opportunities for Asians/Pacific Islanders.
- Help schools develop programs that enhance the educational opportunities of Asian/Pacific Islander children.

In the prompt box below, please explain in detail how your nominee meets one or more of the criteria listed above. Feel free to speak to the criteria language directly in your response. (*Responses should be no more than 1,000 words.*)

George I. Sánchez Memorial Award

George I. Sánchez (1906-1972) was an educator, historian, and scholar in the United States, Mexico, Peru, and Venezuela. He devoted 50 years of his life to the education of Mexican, Navajo, and Black children and is known as the “father of the movement for quality education for Mexican Americans.”

NEA presents the George I. Sánchez Memorial Award to a nominee whose activities in Hispanic affairs have made a significant impact on education and the achievement of equal opportunity for Hispanics.

To be eligible for this award, the nominee(s) must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Promote equitable educational opportunities for Hispanic children.
- Help establish and/or fund a bilingual education program.
- Develop bilingual instructional materials and/or multimedia bilingual programs.
- Help public schools develop programs that enhance the educational opportunities of Hispanic students.
- Promote, design, and coordinate training programs for counselors/educators who work with Hispanic students.

In the prompt box below, please explain in detail how your nominee meets one or more of the criteria listed above. Feel free to speak to the criteria language directly in your response. (*Responses should be no more than 1,000 words.*)

H. Councill Trenholm Memorial Award (Black)

Harper Councill Trenholm (1900-1963) served for 21 years as executive secretary of the American Teachers Association (ATA). One of the country's most outstanding Black educators, he helped build ATA's numbers and strength and worked for the merger of ATA and NEA.

NEA presents the dual H. Councill Trenholm Memorial Award to one Black and one non-Black educator. **The black award is awarded in even years; and the non-black award in odd years.**

To be eligible for this award, the nominee(s) must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Work beyond the call of duty to free the education profession from inequities based on race or ethnicity.
- Help improve intergroup relations and understanding among racial and ethnic groups.
- Secure community recognition for his or her contributions to intergroup relations, and understanding among racial and ethnic groups.
- Form education coalitions with non-education groups.

In the prompt box below, please explain in detail how your nominee meets one or more of the criteria listed above. Feel free to speak to the criteria language directly in your response. (*Responses should be no more than 1,000 words.*)

Leo Reano Memorial Award

Leo Reano (1922-1971) was a teacher, artist, and interpreter. A member of the Santo Domingo Indian Pueblo, Reano served on the All Indian Pueblo Council and the NEA Council on Human Relations. He dedicated his life to securing educational opportunities for American Indian/Alaska Native children.

NEA presents the Leo Reano Memorial Award to a nominee whose activities in American Indian/Alaska Native affairs have made a significant impact on education and the achievement of equal opportunity for American Indians/Alaska Natives.

To be eligible for this award, the nominee(s) must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Promote equal educational opportunity for American Indian/Alaska Native children.
- Help schools acquire and use information about federal legislation affecting American Indians/Alaska Natives.
- Help schools develop programs to enhance the education of American Indian/Alaska Native children.
- Help eliminate the misuse of federal funds that are set aside for American Indian/Alaska Native education.
- Promote, design, and coordinate training programs for counselors and educators who work with American Indian/Alaska Native students.
- Promote educational American Indian/Alaskan native issues in educational setting for professional development growth.
- Help dispel myths, stereotypes, and historical inaccuracies of the American Indian/Alaska Native community.

In the prompt box below, please explain in detail how your nominee meets one or more of the criteria listed above. Feel free to speak to the criteria language directly in your response. (*Responses should be no more than 1,000 words.*)

Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Award

Martin Luther King, Jr., (1929-1968) led the American Civil Rights Movement that broke the irons of segregation. By applying what is now known as the Kingian method of nonviolence, he stirred the conscience of the nation, helped enact civil rights laws, and opened pathways of hope to Americans of all races and groups.

NEA presents the Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Award to a nominee who emulates Dr. King in leadership and philosophy.

To be eligible for this award, the nominee(s) must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Initiate or engage in activities that positively impact the educational, social, economic, or political life of the community.
- Contribute to the achievement of self-determination by individuals or groups.
- Display creativity, determination, and perseverance in achieving human and civil rights goals.
- Establish an ongoing program or institution for the improvement of human relations and civil rights.
- Exemplify the nonviolent philosophy of Martin Luther King, Jr., and other nonviolent activists in the quest for improved human relations and civil rights.

In the prompt box below, please explain in detail how your nominee meets one or more of the criteria listed above. Feel free to speak to the criteria language directly in your response. (*Responses should be no more than 1,000 words.*)

Mary Hatwood Futrell Award

Mary Hatwood Futrell increased national awareness of the Equal Rights Amendment during her presidency of ERAmerica. She also made NEA a leading champion of women's rights during her three terms as NEA President. During her presidency of Education International and deanship at George Washington University Graduate School of Education and Human Development, Mary enhanced the rights of women worldwide, and continues to do so today.

NEA presents the Mary Hatwood Futrell Award to a nominee whose activities in women's rights have made a significant impact on education and the achievements of equal opportunity for women and girls.

To be eligible for this award, the nominee(s) must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Promote equitable educational opportunities for women and girls.
- Improve the economic, occupational, and health status of women members.
- Develop programs that strengthen women's role in the making of educational policy.
- Develop programs that help women of various cultures form coalitions and share resources.
- Promote public policy designed to eliminate sex role stereotyping and/or inequities in education and in other sectors of the economy.
- Champion policy and/or legislation that defends, fosters, and ensures women's rights.

In the prompt box below, please explain in detail how your nominee meets one or more of the criteria listed above. Feel free to speak to the criteria language directly in your response. (*Responses should be no more than 1,000 words.*)

Reg Weaver Human and Civil Rights Award

As a classroom teacher for more than 30 years, Reg Weaver saw up close the toll poverty takes on students. He saw students without coats in the dead of winter. He saw students who showed up for class hungry. He saw students without basic school supplies, not even a pencil, and the impact that it had on their education. What's more, Reg Weaver was famous for dipping into his own pocket to buy a student a winter coat, a meal, or supplies. He also visited poor students' homes to ensure that their families understood someone cared. And when Reg Weaver was President of the Illinois Education Association- NEA, and then President of NEA, he kept the spotlight fixed on the plight of poor students.

NEA presents the Reg Weaver Human and Civil Rights Award to a nominee whose activities around closing the poverty gaps for children in America and around the world have made a significant impact in helping poor students and eliminating poverty.

To be eligible for this award, the nominee(s) must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Educate the public about the issues related to the impact of poverty on children.
- Inspire public engagement in the elimination of poverty.
- Work actively to improve the economic opportunities for all people.
- Promote public policy that positively affects the economic health and welfare of families.
- Work in partnership with other agencies/groups to give a voice to those marginalized by poverty.
- Help schools develop programs that enhance the education, social and emotional health of children in economically depressed areas and/or areas with high concentrations of poverty.

In the prompt box below, please explain in detail how your nominee meets one or more of the criteria listed above. Feel free to speak to the criteria language directly in your response. (*Responses should be no more than 1,000 words.*)

Rosena J. Willis Memorial Award (Local Affiliate)

Rosena J. Willis (1926-1970), a displaced Black teacher, lost her job when her school district in Virginia closed all public schools rather than desegregate. Joining the NEA staff, Ms. Willis worked diligently to implement the NEA merger with the American Teachers Association. A superb facilitator and organizer, Ms. Willis helped the NEA as well as its state and local affiliates bring minority members into the work and leadership of the association.

NEA presents two Rosena J. Willis Memorial Awards to affiliates that involve NEA members in advocacy for minority students and families, minority parent involvement in schools, and minority community outreach. The state affiliate award is presented in odd-numbered years, and the local affiliate award in even-numbered years.

Local Affiliate Award (presented in even-numbered years)

To be eligible for the local affiliate award, the nominated local affiliate must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Involve more minority members in the work and leadership of the association by providing them an opportunity for leadership training and encouraging their activism in local association committees and campaigns.
- Provide NEA members with the opportunity to become activists in the human and civil rights movement of our day, especially in the battles where the health and well-being of minority students and their families are at stake.
- Involve NEA members in the fight for ethnic studies and immigrant rights as well as in initiatives that champion pre-school and kindergarten for all minority students, smaller class sizes, and tutoring for any student who falls behind in her/his studies.
- Establish outreach programs in which NEA members listen to minority families, connect with them, and then help them become more involved in the education of their children.
- Promote the teaching of social justice in our schools to students, and during in-service and pre-service training for educators and in association training for members.

In the prompt box below, please explain in detail how your nominee meets one or more of the criteria listed above. Feel free to speak to the criteria language directly in your response. (*Responses should be no more than 1,000 words.*)

SuAnne Big Crow Memorial Award

SuAnne Big Crow (1974-1992) was an American Indian student from Pine Ridge, South Dakota. An outstanding athlete, student leader, and role model, she spent her school years working to give her peers on the reservation a greater sense of self-worth and dignity. Big Crow died in an automobile accident at the age of 17.

NEA presents the SuAnne Big Crow Memorial Award to a K-12 student(s), under the age of 20, whose achievements in schools have helped enhance students' sense of worth and dignity.

To be eligible for this award, the nominee(s) must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Promote, through leadership in specific activities and actions, an appreciation for diversity and the elimination of bigotry and prejudice.
- Demonstrate leadership in improving the conditions and self-esteem of minorities or the disadvantaged.
- Secure community recognition for his or her contribution toward the elimination of social injustice.

In the prompt box below, please explain in detail how your nominee meets one or more of the criteria listed above. Feel free to speak to the criteria language directly in your response. (*Responses should be no more than 1,000 words.*)

Virginia Uribe Memorial Award for Creative Leadership in Human Rights

Virginia Uribe (1933-2019) was a high school teacher and counselor and a leader in the movement to improve the lives of lesbian and gay youth. In 1984, she founded California's Project 10, the first school-based dropout prevention program for students facing sexual orientation discrimination and harassment.

NEA presents the Virginia Uribe Award for Creative Leadership in Human Rights to a nominee whose activities in human rights significantly impact education and the achievement of equal opportunity for those facing such discrimination.

To be eligible for this award, the nominee(s) must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Promote appreciation for diversity with regard to sexual orientation.
- Work to eliminate discriminatory or abusive behavior toward lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, queer (LGBTQ) groups and individuals.
- Help schools develop programs that enhance the education of LGBTQ students and that teach other students to refrain from activities such as bullying, stereotyping, and fighting.
- Demonstrate leadership and creativity in improving conditions and opportunities for LGBTQ individuals.
- Champions policy and/or legislation that improve conditions and opportunities for LGBTQ individuals.

In the prompt box below, please explain in detail how your nominee meets one or more of the criteria listed above. Feel free to speak to the criteria language directly in your response. (*Responses should be no more than 1,000 words.*)