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RUHKALA

Community Service Awards

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2022 Ruhkala Award Honorees



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

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Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

INDIVIDUAL HONOREE

Twiana Armstrong

Nomination Category: Individual or Couple

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

Twiana gives every minute of every day in service to the city of Rocklin. I have yet to meet someone who attends all the meetings, events, awards, organizations and info sessions as she does. She gives her time endlessly on the parks and rec committee, in service to the arts, as an RUSD volunteer and student admin, leadership rocklin, at the chamber of commerce and endless other local organizations.

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

Twiana constantly sings the praises of Rocklin and walks the talk when it comes to showing up and giving her time. I have not found another who is able to love living here as much as she does and loves the people who live here just as much. She truly is Rocklin embodied.

When did the community service take place?:

Twiana shows up for everything. Truly, she loves and breathes Rocklin 365 days a year.

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

Twiana has also worked hard to bring all voices to the table and give everyone a fair shake. This attitude is hard to find these days. Meanwhile, she has founded a non-profit that strives to celebrate the achievements of children to ensure that each one is seen, heard and loved. Rocklin struck gold with Twiana.



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

BUSINESS, GROUP OR SERVICE ORGANIZATION HONOREE

Rocklin Lost and Found Pets

Nomination Category: Business, Group or Service Organization

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

Kim Hall is an animal rescue advocate. Kim started the local Facebook page “Rocklin lost and found pets”. When there is a missing pet, she is first to drop everything and help find the animal. Relentlessly. Night or day. Middle of the night, holidays. She will gather search parties. Set humane traps, she will counsel and support pet families with love and dedication. I’ve been lucky to have assisted her a couple of times and she is amazing. Selfless and has reunited so many lost fur babies and their human families. She does all of this at her own expense. Kim is a wonderful person, animal lover and has been devoted to the Rocklin community for years. There’s no one like her.

How has the nominee’s efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

Kim’s unyielding dedication to the helpless lost fur babies in this community has reunited untold families with their beloved pets. She is always there. Every single time.

When did the community service take place?:

The last ten years

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

Even if the animal doesn’t have a human family searching for it, she’s there. Dog abandoned in a parking lot? She’s there. Cat stuck in a field? She’s there. She would climb a tree, be battered by sharp branches, jump into water to save and or rescue an animal.



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

YOUTH HONOREE

Luke Vellutini

Nomination Category: Youth

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

Luke serves on the Executive Board of The Residential Hermès (TRH) a local non-profit organization that provides free online marketing and other resources to local small businesses and he is a founder of the Waste Management Association (WMA) at RHS which has held several organized events to collect trash at local parks in Rocklin & Roseville. Additionally, Luke provides free tutoring services 2-3 times each week through the RHS Peer Tutoring Program.

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

TRH; Free advertising for local businesses on their website, theresidentialhermes.org. Luke heads the video productions department highlighting small businesses through videos on their Instagram, @theresidentialhermes, YouTube: The Residential Hermès, and website.

WMA: Trash pickup events at the following locations: Johnson Springview Park, Rocklin High School, Dollar Tree lot, Maidu Regional Park, Margaret Azevedo Park.

When did the community service take place?:

TRH began in Summer 2020 & WMA began in Fall 2021. TRH was more active during the pandemic when businesses were really struggling. WMA is active now and has 3-4 cleanup events each month.

Does the individual attend school in Rocklin and if so, what grade are they currently completing?:

Luke is a junior at Rocklin High School.

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

Luke is active in Rocklin Boy Scout Troop 349 and is currently beginning his Eagle Scout Project to benefit Koinonia Family Services.



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

PIONEER HONOREE

Jer Jarrett

Nomination Category: Individual or Couple

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

Jer is a founding member of the Rocklin Fine Arts organization, giving many hours and expertise since 2007. She was active in bringing the fine arts group to Rocklin. Originally called Art Matters, Jer and the officers approached the City of Rocklin for support. The name was changed to Rocklin Fine Arts.

Jer has held several officer positions in the club over the last 15 years and was passionate about arts being part of children's lives. When the City of Rocklin dissolved the Snowflake Art Show, Jer was instrumental in Rocklin Fine Arts' sponsorship of a Student Show. Working with Rocklin Unified and the VAPA teachers, the show was open to all Rocklin students and included an awards reception. She worked with VAPA teachers to identify the best academic dates for a show and also picked up artwork from schools.

When the new Rocklin Library opened, Jer was the volunteer who organized the hanging of public art. Student show winners and Rocklin residents were among the many whose art exhibits brightened the library walls.

With Jer's leadership Rocklin Fine Arts became a 501(c)3.

In 2017, Jer formed the Bill Jarrett Visual Arts Scholarship for graduating Rocklin seniors. The scholarship application includes an essay and an art piece. The scholarship award began at \$500 and has grown to \$1000.

Now, the RFA Student Show is open to all students in Placer County and the Jarrett Visual Arts Student Scholarship is open to any graduating senior residing in Placer County.

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

Jer Jarrett's efforts has brought fine arts to Rocklin. Participants in the art meetings, art shows, workshops, activities and exhibits are able to participate in art in many ways - as an artist, learner,



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

student, exhibitor, collector, business owner, chamber events. Jer believes 'Art Matters' that art should be a part of everyday living and the benefits of art are building of relationships and a higher quality of life for all.

Jer has supported the Friends of the Library and the Rocklin Theatre Group through fine arts and more.

When did the community service take place?:

2007 – 2022

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

N/A



Ruhkala Community Service Awards Nominations

PIONEER HONOREE

Henry "Hank" Lohse

Nomination Category: Individual or Couple

Describe the community service performed by the nominee that merits consideration of a Ruhkala Award:

For over 5 years Hank has been the President of the Rocklin Historical Society(RHS). This volunteer position requires an enormous amount of time, and carries with it significant responsibilities. As the leader of a 501C3 charitable organization he had the principal responsibility for Accounting Reports, Meeting minutes, Staffing of key positions (Treasurer, Secretary, Facilities, Museum Tour & Docents, Fundraising, and Quarry Quarterly publication) just to name a few. He led the RHS board meetings based on an agenda that he was responsible to produce with the input of others. In addition to conducting meetings in a business like manner, Hank has inspired the RHS to grow and expand its presence in Rocklin.

How has the nominee's efforts helped the residents, businesses and/or stakeholders of Rocklin?:

A recent example of how his leadership has inspired others is his support and collaboration with RHS and members of the community to acquire and erect a monument to Capitol Quarry, that compliments the historical theme of Rocklin. He supported city government's aim of expanding business and recreational opportunity, thus attracting others to visit our community. The aforementioned example is merely one example of many similar accomplishments during his tenure as President. In his absence, there is no doubt that his drive and energy needs to be carried forward by others to insure Rocklin Historical Society's role remains a highly productive contributor to Rocklin's past and future.

When did the community service take place?:

5+ years ago

Please include any other information about the nominee you feel is important:

Hank's efforts have been enhanced by a large cadre of committed volunteers, who have had to deal with all manner of difficulties (e.g. Covid, project funding, prioritization) but they all recognized Hank as a resource they could rely on to achieve consensus with ways forward. Hank has been an invaluable leader.