



All-America City Award

Celebrating the best in civic innovation since 1949

Each year, the National Civic League honors ten communities with the All-America City Award, recognizing excellence in local innovation, civic engagement, and cross-sector collaboration. This award highlights the potential within every community to address tough challenges and drive meaningful change through the collective efforts of residents, businesses, nonprofits, and government leaders.

Beyond recognition, the award provides an opportunity for reflection. Communities that apply bring together a diverse, cross-sector team to assess their strengths, review progress, address challenges, and share their unique stories. Through this yearlong process, communities gain deeper insights into civic excellence and foster stronger connections.

Cities, counties, tribes and community organizations of all types are invited to apply.



"AAC restored my faith in the ability of this country's residents and communities to come together to solve problems, showcase successes, and celebrate each other's struggles and dreams in this 'lively experiment' we call democracy."
-Angela Romans, League Board Member and AAC Juror

Benefits to Applying



Finalists and winners often see a significant boost in tourism and grant opportunities. They also find it easier to attract and retain businesses, leading to job creation and a stronger tax base.



The All-America City Award experience breathes new life into communities, instilling a fresh sense of pride, accomplishment, and teamwork.



Winning the award elevates local initiatives to a national platform, raising the profile of community efforts. Winners join an elite network of communities that proudly bear the All-America City title.

Learn More: NationalCivicLeague.org/America-City-Award/

2025 All-America City Award

Strengthening Environmental Sustainability through Inclusive Community Engagement

As communities grapple with the challenges of climate change, the 2025 All-America City Award will recognize the pivotal role that community engagement plays in advancing environmental sustainability.

Climate change presents imminent and complex dangers to local communities. Urgent and equitable action is needed to help forestall rising temperatures and cultivate resilient, equitable communities that continue to thrive in the face of these environmental, economic, and social impacts. Fortunately, communities all over the world are already working to help safeguard our planet for future generations.

The 2025 award will recognize these communities, specifically those that demonstrate a commitment to environmental sustainability through meaningful community engagement initiatives. By engaging residents, businesses, and government stakeholders in the pursuit of environmental goals, they create lasting impacts that reduce and mitigate the effects of climate change while bolstering residents' well-being.



Some projects adhering to this year's theme include:

- Engagement strategies such as appreciative inquiry, citizen commissions, and participatory planning, that empower communities in climate action planning.
- Transportation campaigns that engage residents in efforts to increase biking, walking, carpooling, and public transit use.
- Community-based workforce development programs focused on increasing and ensuring equitable access to green jobs.
- Neighborhood-based climate resilience projects.
- Enhancing and streamlining climate action efforts through technology and AI solutions.
- Community forums on climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.
- Climate action task forces to develop localized action plans.
- Working with schools to increase shared awareness and understanding of climate change impacts.
- Raising climate change awareness through the arts and entertainment.
- Natural disaster preparedness planning that involves residents in collective action.

Important Dates:

June 2024-May 2025: AAC Webinar Series

December 30, 2024: Letters of Intent Due

February 27, 2025: Applications Due

March 2025: Finalists Announced

March-June 2025: Competition Preparation

June 27-29, 2025: AAC Competition & Event in Denver, CO

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