

### **1. Outstanding Philanthropic Organization**

This award recognizes a philanthropic corporation (100+ employees), organization or giving circle (e.g. civic groups, volunteer organizations, etc.) whose grants, programs, gifts, and charitable activities enrich a community within the Charlotte-Mecklenburg region. This organization's philanthropy should go above and beyond the organization's mission and/or purpose.

### **2. Outstanding Philanthropic Small Business**

This award recognizes a small business (less than 100 employees) whose grants, programs, gifts, and charitable activities enrich a community within the Charlotte-Mecklenburg region. This business's philanthropy should go above and beyond the business's mission and/or purpose.

### **3. Outstanding Philanthropist**

This award honors an individual or family for exceptional generosity demonstrated through: civic responsibility and leadership, community involvement, and personally meaningful financial contributions to charitable organizations that result in a positive impact on the Charlotte-Mecklenburg region.

### **4. Outstanding Emerging Philanthropist**

This award recognizes an individual or family, aged 40 years or under, for exceptional generosity demonstrated through: civic responsibility and leadership, community involvement, and personally meaningful financial contributions to charitable organizations that result in a positive impact on the Charlotte-Mecklenburg region.

### **5. Outstanding Student Philanthropist**

This award recognizes a student or student group whose voluntary fundraising efforts have made a significant impact on the Charlotte-Mecklenburg community, demonstrated the spirit of philanthropy, and set an example for others to follow.

### **6. Outstanding Fundraising Executive**

This award honors an outstanding individual fundraising professional whose actions and leadership exemplify ethical and effective professional practice and whose performance has enhanced the financial resources and recognition of the organization for which he, she, or they works. The nominee must demonstrate a strong commitment to philanthropy, volunteerism, and professional development, and have actively worked as a professional fundraiser for at least 5 years prior to nomination.

## **7. Outstanding Champion of Diversity**

This award recognizes an individual or family who has demonstrated leadership and promoted diversity in philanthropic activities that create community impact and engagement. A Diversity Champion lifts up the Association of Fundraising Professionals' principals of IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access). The nominee is committed to philanthropic activities that reflect, are responsive to, and embrace the diversity of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg region, respecting and valuing all people. A Diversity Champion is a connector who bridges communities and creates a space where everyone's gifts are appreciated and voices are heard.

## **8. Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser**

This award recognizes individuals, families, or co-chairs who have provided exceptional leadership in coordinating fundraising projects or activities for a charitable organization or cause, resulting in a positive impact on the Charlotte-Mecklenburg region.

## **9. Outstanding Legacy**

This award recognizes exemplary philanthropic contributions made in legacy form via bequest, trust, or other planned gift. To be eligible to receive this award, the legacy donor must have made a gift where the proceeds have or will be received by charitable organizations. If the award recipient is deceased, members of the recipient's family will be invited to accept the award.