

CATEGORIES:

A Better Bakersfield

An annual event or project that greatly improves the quality of life in Bakersfield.

Architecture & Design

The completion of an innovative new building or space, showcasing an outstanding interior or exterior design that harmonizes with its environment.

Arts & Culture

Efforts by a group or individual to enrich and elevate arts and culture within the Bakersfield community.

Urban Core

An individual, business, or coalition working to make downtown Bakersfield safer, more vibrant and economically thriving.

Educational Excellence

An Educator, project or institution advancing educational opportunities and achievement across all levels in the community.

Health & Wellness

An individual, group or organization going beyond their normal activities to promote healthy living through education, prevention or medical services.

Heart of Hospitality

Exceptional team members in lodging, food & beverage, events, travel and recreation who go above and beyond to deliver outstanding guest experiences and contribute to service excellence.

Humanitarian Individual

An individual whose personal volunteer efforts have significantly impacted the community.

Humanitarian Group

A group whose dedicated volunteer work has made a meaningful difference in the lives of Bakersfield residents

Emerging Nonprofit

A nonprofit organization (1-10 years old) who made a significant impact on the community through its grassroots initiatives.

Nonprofit of the Year

Honors a nonprofit organization for its significant and lasting impact on the community.

Small Business of the Year

A small business (25 employees or fewer) whose contributions, products, or services instill pride and benefit the community.

Large Business/Corporation of the Year

A business recognized for its substantial impact through volunteer work, donations or community engagement.

Next Gen

A young individual or group (grades K-12) with exceptional citizenship and community involvement.

Young Professional

An individual (ages 18-40) whose contributions have significantly enhanced the quality of life in Bakersfield.

Business Person of the Year

A local business owner/manager whose efforts truly impact and enhance the quality of life in the community.

Harvey L. Hall Lifetime Achievement Award

A local, long-time community leader, age 55 and over, who has made a lasting impact on Bakersfield and its residents.

Nominations must be for work completed in 2025 to be eligible for consideration. No more than two nominations per individual, business or organization will be considered.

Nomination Deadline: Friday, January 30, 2026