

Equity and Human Relations Awards Ad Hoc Subcommittee

Awards Report August 2025 meeting

Members of the Equity and Human Relations Awards Ad Hoc Subcommittee are: Samia Bano, Haifaa Moammar, Rebecca Rona-Tuttle and Carlos Valverde.

The award recipients selected by the full committee were:

Student: Kalia Lowitz

Individual residing or working in Culver City: Prof. Jo Tavares

Business: Fawaz Istwani and Nicholas Conner, owners, Jackson Market

Nonprofit: Jane Borochoff, executive director, Westside Regional Center

The cost of the medallions was \$450 (\$90 each for five medallions.) The remaining cost,s for boxes and ribbons, were minimal.

The awards will be presented at a City Council meeting to be held Monday, September 8, 2025 at 6pm in Council Chambers.

Originally the date was earlier, but the presentation was postponed twice, most recently because the city council needed more time than usual to handle the agenda items.

The City has formalized the presentations of all awards, to make the process consistent. Therefore our committee will present no certificates this year.

During the September 8th Awards presentation,

Vice Chair London McBride, in Chair Denice Renteria's absence, will give a brief background on the Equity and Human Relations Awards.

Vice Chair McBride will then call each awardee to the podium and read aloud the biographical sketches prepared by the Equity and Human Relations Awards Ad Hoc Subcommittee members.

Members of the subcommittee will present the medallions to the recipients: Samia Bano to Jane Borocoff, Haifaa Moammar to Fawaz Istwani and Nicholas Conner, Rebecca Rona to the mother of student Kalia Lowitz, who will be on the East Coast attending class, and Carlos Valverde to Prof. Jo Tavares.

At a subsequent committee meeting, the ad hoc subcommittee will deliver another report, this one covering reflections and recommendations we have regarding: any improvements or changes to the rules, the application form, the process of marketing the awards, and the selection of awardees. There may be additional topics.