



AWARDS CRITERION

Human and Civil Rights Association of New Jersey

H&CRA of New Jersey has established the following certificates of excellence to publicly acknowledge the contributions of specific individuals and/or organizations who have demonstrated significant contributions in the areas of human and civil rights. In an effort to honor historical as well as innovative service in support of HCRA's mission, selection criteria will be determined by each Awards Committee prior to the solicitation of nominees.

I. *Humanitarian Award.* A distinction presented to an individual or organization devoted to improving the human condition and treating human beings with respect and dignity regardless of their differences. Efforts to be recognized include saving lives, alleviating suffering, and promoting human dignity.

II. *Public Service Award.* A presentation to an individual, organization, or agency demonstrating superior efforts in ensuring the availability of quality public services so essential to modern life that for moral reasons their universal provisions should be guaranteed, and they may be associated with fundamental human rights. Examples of public services include:

- Broadcasting
- Education
- Electricity
- Fire Service
- Gas
- Health Care
- Military
- Police Service
- Public Transportation
- Social Housing
- Telecommunications
- Town Planning
- Waste Management
- Water Services

III. *Community Service Award.* This award commemorates a person who responds to the needs of or pursues benefits for the community by interacting and interfacing through political structures via communications media (letters, telephones, boycotts, protest marches, and/or rallies) for social, professional, educational or other human and civil rights.

IV. *Diversity Award:* This multiculturalism award is based on the political and social policy of encouraging and pursuing tolerance for people of different backgrounds. The individual or organization honored will have made

successful efforts in the pursuit of equal opportunities in business, employment, education, health, welfare, politics, or other areas afforded Americans. Multiculturalism includes all of the ways in which people differ, including innate characteristics (i.e. age, race, gender, national origin, mental and physical abilities, sexual orientation) and acquired characteristics (i.e. education, income, religion, work experience, language skills, geographic location).

- V. ***Literary Award.*** The individual receiving this award will have written an outstanding piece or body of work championing human and/or civil rights.

- VI. ***Special Awards.*** Individuals honored for their tireless and unselfish efforts in pursuing the mission of the Human & Civil Rights Association of New Jersey. The 2008 special award is *Profile in Courage*.