



27th ANNUAL WOMEN’S HALL OF FAME

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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ALAMEDA COUNTY WOMEN’S HALL OF FAME EVENT POSTPONED UNTIL FALL 2020

Alameda County is committed to safeguarding the health and safety of everyone living and working in our community. Due to concerns related to COVID-19 (Coronavirus), the 27th Annual Women’s Hall of Fame Luncheon and Awards Ceremony has been postponed until fall 2020. As we continue efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19, we encourage individual and community preparedness. To protect public health and slow the rate of transmission of COVID-19, the California Department of Public Health advises that large gatherings that include 50 people or more should be postponed or canceled for at least the immediate future. Updated information for residents, health care providers, schools, and city and community partners is available on our County and Public Health website <http://www.acphd.org/2019-ncov.aspx>.

While the annual event is postponed, we proudly announce the thirteen local women representing the region’s rich diversity as well as a remarkable range of achievement have been selected to be inducted into the **Alameda County Women’s Hall of Fame**. The program is co-sponsored by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and the County’s Commission on the Status of Women and raises funds to support important local partners serving women and families in Alameda County. In addition, it supports the academic pursuits of local girls through the **Mary V. King “Leading the Way” Youth Scholarship Fund**.

The 2020 Women’s Hall of Fame Inductees are:

• Business and Professions: Reign Free	• Justice: Sonya L. Smallets
• Community Service: Candi Thornton-McCreary	• Non-Traditional Careers: Jean Bjork
• Culture & Arts: Judith Smith	• Philanthropy: Nicole Kyauk
• Education: Susan A. Cota, Ed.D.	• Science, Technology, Engineering: Rashim Mogha
• Emerging Leader: Nazineen Kandahari	• Sports & Athletics: Teri McKeever
• Environment: Fatemeh Shirazi, Ph.D.	• Youth: Valeria Cruz
• Health: Cynthia Carey-Grant	

The inductees include an environmentally-conscious entrepreneur who supports local farmers and aspiring entrepreneurs whose business was chosen to cater President Barack Obama’s Oakland My Brother’s Keeper event; a community leader who advocates for supportive housing and provides fresh meals to over 100 families weekly; and a co-founder of a contemporary dance ensemble composed of dancers with and without physical disabilities, challenging disability stereotypes through the power of dance.

We are excited about the 2020 honorees and look forward to celebrating their extraordinary achievements and contributions to our communities in fall of this year. For more information on the Alameda County Women’s Hall of Fame and the 2020 inductees, please visit <http://whof.acgov.org> or please e-mail countyadministrator@acgov.org for additional information.