



Dear Nominator:

Thank you for your interest in nominating an honorary grand marshal for our upcoming Pride parade. The role of grand marshal is one of our highest honors, reserved for individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the LGBTQIA+ community in the Greater Rockford Area. The selection process is guided by three core values that reflect the spirit of Pride: Celebration, Remembering, and Uniting. These principles honor both the joy and resilience of our community, the legacy of those who paved the way, and the ongoing work to bring us together in solidarity and support. As you prepare your nomination, please address how your nominee embodies each of these values:

CELEBRATE!

Celebration is a joyful expression of recognition, achievement, or significance. Celebrations often involve rituals, customs, and festivities that bring people together to share in the joy and commemorate the occasion. They serve to uplift spirits, foster connections, and create lasting memories. Celebrating can also be a form of gratitude, acknowledging the good things in life and expressing appreciation for them. *How does your nominee represent a "celebration" of the LGBTQIA+ Community in the Greater Rockford Area?*

REMEMBER!

Remembering encompasses the act of recalling and honoring the past, whether it's the memory of loved ones, historical events, cultural heritage, or personal experiences. It serves as a way to preserve the legacy of those who came before us, to learn from history, and to ensure that important lessons and values are not forgotten. Remembering can also provide comfort, closure, and a sense of continuity, linking the past to the present and shaping our collective identity. *How does your nominee represent the history and/or legacy of the LGBTQIA+ Community in the Greater Rockford Area?*

UNITE!

Uniting brings people together for a common purpose by fostering solidarity, cooperation, and understanding across differences. It requires empathy and open-mindedness to bridge divides, create inclusive spaces, and address shared challenges, promoting peace and belonging in a diverse world. *How has your nominee united the LGBTQIA+ Community in the Greater Rockford Area?* We look forward to learning about the remarkable individuals who make our community strong, vibrant, and proud.

Yours in Pride,

Rockford Area Pride Committee