

Annual Gertrude Rush Award – Nomination Deadline April 30, 2019



The award will be presented during the I.O.W.A. Annual Awards Banquet, Saturday, June 15, 2019 at the Union Block Building, Mount Pleasant, Iowa. We will celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Arabella Mansfield's admission to the Iowa bar, in the room where it happened, and the 100th Anniversary of Gertrude Rush's admission to the Iowa bar.

Gertrude Rush was the first African-American woman to be admitted to the practice of law in Iowa, in 1918. She began to study law in 1908 under the tutoring of her husband, James Rush. She sat for and passed the Iowa bar examination in the summer of 1918. She was the first and only African-American woman practicing law in Iowa, until 1953, when Willie Stevenson Glanton was admitted to practice law in Iowa. Gertrude Rush became one of the founders of the National Bar Association after she and four other black lawyers were denied membership in the American Bar Association in 1924. The National Bar Association was officially founded in 1925 and incorporated in 1926. Gertrude Rush was also a composer of religious songs and was active in many church and civic organizations.

The Iowa Organization of Women Attorneys (IOWA) and the Iowa National Bar Association (INBA) established the Gertrude Rush Award in 2003 and co-sponsor the award to recognize a lawyer who manifests the pioneering spirit of Gertrude Rush, demonstrates leadership in the community and in the legal profession, and demonstrates concern for human and civil rights.

Former recipients are: Kristina Stanger, Erin Lain, Dr. Angela Onwuachi-Willig, Karen Romano, Shontavia Johnson, Sharon Malheiro, Barbara Schwartz, Bonnie Campbell, Chinyere Ukabiala, Roxanne Conlin, Romonda Belcher, Artis Reis, Adrien Wing, Inga Bumbary-Langston, Diann Wilder-Tomlinson, Willie Stevenson Glanton.

Nomination forms available at: www.iowawomenattorneys.org

Application Requirements: Submit the following materials, using the guidelines below:

- A. Nomination Form.
Please complete the form that follows.
- B. Nominee's Resume.
Please attach the nominee's resume or biographical information, describing her background and contributions.
- C. Reason for Nomination.
On a separate page, in a few concise paragraphs, please answer the following questions: How has the nominee demonstrated leadership in the community? How has the nominee demonstrated leadership in the legal profession? How has the nominee demonstrated concern for human and civil rights? How has the nominee demonstrated a "pioneering spirit"? In answering these questions, please describe how the contributions, accomplishments, and/or initiatives of the nominee meet these qualifications, using specific examples.
- D. Availability to Receive Award.
Please indicate whether the nominee can be present to receive the award on Saturday, June 15, 2019, in Mount Pleasant, Iowa (i.e., no planned trips or other commitments).

Deadline and procedure: Nomination forms are due by April 30, 2019.

Nominations can be submitted electronically to Margaret Johnson or Emily Chafa at the email addresses provided below or by regular U.S. postal mail to I.O.W.A., Attn: Gertrude Rush Award, P.O. Box 8268, Des Moines, IA 50301. If you have questions, contact Margaret Johnson at meg_colaw@hotmail.com or Emily Chafa at emilychafa@msn.com.

RETURN NOMINATION FORM AND ATTACHMENTS BY APRIL 30, 2019 TO:

Iowa Organization of Women Attorneys

Attn: Gertrude Rush Award

P.O. Box 8268 Des Moines, IA 50301

Or via e-mail to: meg_colaw@hotmail.com or emilychafa@msn.com

Annual Gertrude Rush Award Nomination Form

Please type or print clearly:

Name of Nominee	Title/Position	Firm/Organization
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Address	City	State	Zip
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Telephone (office)	Fax	E-mail
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Please indicate any categories that describe the nominee's present position or practice:

Private practice Judiciary Prosecutor/public defender Government

Academia Legal author/writer Corporate/business sector Non-profit entity

Other (Please describe) _____

Please include the nominating person's name and information as listed below:

Your Name	Title/Position	Firm/Organization
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Address	City	State	Zip
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Telephone (office)	Fax	E-mail
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