



# 2025 CITY SPIRIT AWARD NOMINEES

City Clerk's Office

City Council  
April 7, 2026

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## BACKGROUND

The Mayor and City Council have honored a community member each year since the establishment of the City Spirit Award in 1995.

CITY SPIRIT AWARD RECIPIENTS					
1995	Dickey DeLoss	2006	Natividad Fuentes	2017	Ruben and Diana Ayala
1996	Rich Biber	2007	Damon Castillo	2018	Brian Jaramillo
1997	Michael Goldware	2008	San Huang	2019	Zack Earp
1998	Rose Mayes	2009	Cindy Roth	2020	Ofelia Valdez-Yeager
1999	Rita Norton	2010	Kathy Allavie	2021	Lynn Heatley
2000	Victor Miceli	2011	Jane Block	2022	Francisca Beltran
2001	Daniel Hantman	2012	Stan Morrison	2023	Beth Schwandt
2002	William F. Gavitt	2013	Debbie Guthrie	2024	Senator Richard Roth (ret)
2003	Dell Roberts	2014	Gordon Bourns	2025	
2004	Stan Brown	2015	Anthony Rivera		
2005	Jim Erickson	2016	Henry Coil, Jr.		



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## 2025 SPIRIT AWARD NOMINEES

MAYOR'S NOMINATING AND SCREENING COMMITTEE SELECTIONS	
Nominated by:	Nominee
Mayor Lock Dawson	Justin Pardee
Councilmember Robillard, Ward 3	<b>Leimamo Taylor</b>
Councilmember Conder, Ward 4	<b>Lorna Jenkins</b>
Councilmember Mill, Ward 5	Gerardo "Jerry" Pulido
Councilmember Perry, Ward 6	Elia Camarena



## City Spirit Award Nominee: Leimamo Taylor

Over seven years ago, as a single mom with a big dream, Leimamo Taylor took a leap of faith and took over a small café at the Riverside Airport. What began as a modest venture quickly became a mission to create a welcoming space where families, friends, and neighbors could gather, connect, and feel at home.

Under her leadership, the Airport Café has blossomed into a vibrant community destination filled with laughter, creativity, and care. Leimamo has brought new life and awareness to the Riverside Airport, transforming it into a bustling hub of activity and connection. Her vision has helped showcase the airport as more than a travel stop. It is now a gathering place that reflects the best of Riverside's community spirit.

Leimamo is also a passionate advocate for local restaurateurs and small business owners. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, she created a coalition of restaurateurs to provide mutual support, resources, and encouragement during one of the most challenging times for the industry. Her willingness to lead and lift others has earned her deep respect across the local business community.

In addition to her entrepreneurial and civic efforts, Leimamo gives back in countless ways, from organizing toy drives to supporting neighborhood events and city partnerships. She helped launch the beloved *Planes and Treats* event at the Riverside Airport, bringing families, local businesses, and city partners together in celebration.

Leimamo Taylor truly embodies the spirit of Riverside. Through her generosity, perseverance, and unwavering commitment to others, she continues to make our city a warmer, stronger, and more connected place for everyone.

**WARD 3**



# City Spirit Award Nominee: Lorna Jenkins

A resident, an entrepreneur of our great city, a past graduate of Leadership Riverside, having received a multitude of awards and recognitions, a leading member of our Riverside business community, and the founder of My Learning Studio. The studio offers private 1-on-1 tutoring for Riverside County students of all academic subjects, K-12, including adult learners, at-risk youth, court appointed, ESL students and additionally provides FREE Reading Assistance Program (RAP) to struggling students. This nominee has a passion for helping children with academic challenges.

WARD 4

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## CITY SPIRIT CEREMONY

- City Spirit Award Presentation – May 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 pm
- Unveiling Ceremony and Photo

Dickey DeLass 1985	Dell Roberts 2003	Jane C. Block 2011	K.R. Zack Earp 2019
Rich Bilber 1986	General Stan Brown 2004	Stan Morrison 2012	Ofelia Valdez-Yeager 2020
Michael Goldward 1987	Dr. James Frickson 2005	DeMá Guthrie 2013	Lynn Heatley 2021
Rose Mayes 1988	Nahidá "Nati" Fuentes 2016	Gertrude Gomez 2014	Francisco Belmont 2022
Rita Norton 1989	Damon Castillo 2007	Anthony Rivera 2015	Beth Schmitt 2023
Victor Nicelli 2000	Sam Huang 2008	Henry Coll, Jr. 2016	Richard Roth 2024
Dan Hamman 2001	Cindy Roth 2009	Rolene & Diana Ayala 2017	
William F. Gavitt 2002	Kathy Allende 2010	Erin Jaramillo 2018	

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## RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council select a nominee for the 2025 City Spirit Award to honor their extraordinary deeds and community spirit, good citizenship, and dedication to enhancing the quality of life in the City.

