

The Winners of 2019 Village Maker Awards

- Columbus City Councilmember Priscilla Tyson – This year’s keynote speaker and Community Hero award winner has served for over 12 years on Columbus City Council. As Chair of the “Health and Human Services” and “Workforce Development” committees, she is well known and respected for her efforts to invest in impactful initiatives that are designed to create pathways out of poverty.
- Bailey Cavalieri Law Firm - The firm cultivates a culture of giving back and has a charitable gift committee that makes donations to dozens of social service organizations. This includes a large year-end gift to fund a major "wish list" items for one organization. CCH was the proud recipient of their Dec. 2018 gift which will be used to overhaul our technology and furnish a new classroom for adults working to make their own futures.
- Lela Boykin - A community activist for the Near East Side who dedicated over 40 years of professional work in Social Services - including decades of Settlement House leadership at The Neighborhood House. She has given countless hours of activism and expertise to Trinity Baptist Church, United Way and the Lincoln Theater. She is an elected official of the Near East Area Commission and is currently advocating for older adult home owners on the “There’s No Place Like Home” committee.
- Serena Harris - Successful mother of four highly accomplished children. She is a volunteer with Transit Arts, BalletMet and Momentum, a local nonprofit that engages youth in dance/music. She has been a tireless advocate and hands-on volunteer at Central including a serving a term of service on the Board of Trustees.
- Robert Post - An active volunteer and mentor to Transit Arts youth and a professional performer who uses comedy to address social issues, especially with youth through his "How to Survive Middle School" multi-media live show.

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- Javier Sanchez – Author, filmmaker and motivational speaker gave an inspiring Keynote Address. Javier is also a co-host on WOSU’s Columbus Neighborhoods series.
- Pam Gear – Author and operator of nonprofit Community Threads. Successful businesswoman, owned and operated Foster Safety Corp.
- OPI – Community Partner. Bill Mason, president. – Company assists incarcerated individuals through employment in a variety of industries. One group lead playground reconstruction project during KaBoom Playground rebuild
- Columbus Early Learning Centers – Community Partner: Has provided nurturing care and meaningful early learning experiences to Columbus children for more than 125 years.

- Tony and Aziza West - African and African-American inspired drumming and dance - educating as well as entertaining in a historical manner. Thirty years of community art, arts residencies, training and cultural contributions.
- Mosheh Clark – CCH alumni, Transit Arts/Art in the House Apprentice Artist, apprentice in CCH Finance Office, OSU graduate where he was also a mentor with the Kirwan Institute’s "More than my Brother's Keeper" program, and now CCH Board Member

The Winners of 2016 Village Maker Awards

- Alice & Antonio Daniels – Keynote Address/Community Heroes, Antonio, NBA player for 19 seasons and on the Championship-winning 1999 San Antonio Spurs, now NBA analyst on ESPN Radio and Fox Sports Oklahoma. Alice, LSW, Daniels Consults, provides group work, motivational speaking, life coaching and consultation.
- F & W Properties, Dave and Suzanne Fisher (Community Business/Organization winner) who foster a company-wide mission of creating Good Neighbors at many low-to-moderate residential communities. One of which was the troubled Woodland Green Apartments that they turned around and renamed Clifton Woods Apartments.
- James Flannery, president of Franklin Park Civic Association who has spearheaded efforts such as Trolley Barn Block Watch and Trap-Neuter-Release of local feral cats among many events including the annual Jingle Mingle, Pumpkin Patch and Easter Egg Hunts
- Mari Sunami, former director of South Side Settlement House and lifelong advocate for those experiencing poverty, homelessness and marginalization. She is a champion of diversity, inclusion and social justice. In her retirement she has become a volunteer at Central, tutoring children and helping them become proficient readers.

The Winners of 2015 Village Maker Awards

- Community Hero- Pamela Shields, CareSource – advocate for accessible, affordable healthcare who also gives volunteer time and inspirational talks to participants in Central’s family strengthening programs
- Community Partner - The Ohio Children’s Foundation – advocate for children’s well-being and generous benefactor to programs that serve children throughout Ohio
- Thelma Neal – faithfully volunteers three times each month reading to children in the Child Care Center where she’s known as Aunt Thelma to the kids
- Alexis Thompkins – after overcoming addiction challenges, Ms. Alexis has donated time and talents cooking Community Dinners at Central and The Neighborhood House. She also mentors teens and brings them to Central to learn about programs such as Transit Arts and Youth Employment

The Winners of 2014 Village Maker Awards

- Community Hero- Frances Frazier, Everyday Democracy, Rise Sister Rise and Women's Workfcf, Inc. for decades of work teaching, training and empowering others, especially African-American women and girls.
- Community Partner - The Ohio State University Service Learning Initiative and Professor Susan Melsop, bringing university students and local teens together to better their world through the Design Matters course
- Jens & Sherry Hemmingsen growing community through work in Community Gardens
- Richard & Joyce Harris growing community through work in Community Gardens
- Java Kitrick, Puffin Foundation West, for tireless advocacy and work to connect people and bring about peaceful change especially through arts and culture
- Cecil Ahad, Morally Excellent janitorial services and Men for the Movement, is a mentor and volunteer for peace efforts and initiatives to help men re-entering society after incarceration.
- Pastor Bob Ward, First English Lutheran Church, for being an open, positive force for residents along Main Street, helping residents find employment, and leading an array of public peace initiatives

Winners 75th Anniversary Village Makers 2011:

- Community Hero- State Senator Charleta Tavares
- Community Partner - Greater Columbus Arts Council. Partner in providing Art in the House at CCH and other settlements.
- Kent Peters owner of Black Creek Bistro
- Community Gardener Daniel Ingwersen
- Calvin Hairston, neighborhood advocate