

2026 ANNUAL CREW DC
AWARDS & AUCTION

NOMINATION GUIDE

NOMINATIONS OPEN

07 | 28 | 26

NOMINATIONS CLOSE

09 | 09 | 26

AWARDS CELEBRATION

11 | 05 | 26

CREWDC 



2026 CREW DC AWARDS

PROJECT AWARDS

Step into a night of Glitter & Gold at the 2026 CREW DC Awards & Auction, hosted at The Mayflower Hotel. Together, we'll celebrate the trailblazers who are breaking the mold!

The projects and deals must have been substantially completed between June 1, 2024 and July 31, 2026.



01 | PROJECT EXCELLENCE

INTERIOR PROJECT EXCELLENCE AWARD*

Up to 20,000 Sf | 20,000+ Sf

This award recognizes a notable interior project in the Washington Metropolitan Area that incorporates leading-edge sustainability, health and wellness, and technology solutions to advance the user experience. The project should exemplify innovation, resourcefulness, collaboration, and industry best practices, and may include office, retail, or any combination thereof.

YOUR NOMINATION SHOULD ADDRESS:

- Provide an overview of the project, including size, scope, location, and client goals.
- Describe what makes the project innovative or unique.
- Highlight sustainability, wellness, ESG, or resilience initiatives (encouraged)
- Explain collaboration between project partners and the role of the CREW DC member(s).
- Describe key challenges encountered and how they were overcome.
- Demonstrate measurable project outcomes, client success, and community impact.

02 | DEAL MAKING

CREW TO CREW AWARD*

The CREW-to-CREW Deal Making Award recognizes a significant project or transaction involving at least two active CREW DC members and notable for networking, collaboration, and industry impact. Eligible deals include sale/acquisition, lease, development, construction/design/engineering, financing, vendors, or asset/property management in the Washington Metropolitan Area, and submissions must document CREW members' involvement.

YOUR NOMINATION SHOULD ADDRESS:

- Provide an overview of the project or transaction.
- Explain why the deal was significant or complex.
- Describe the role and contributions of the CREW DC member(s) involved.
- Highlight collaboration among project stakeholders.
- Describe challenges encountered and the creative solutions implemented.
- Demonstrate measurable impact on the client, property, market, or community.



2026 CREW DC AWARDS

PROJECT AWARDS



03 | RENOVATION PROJECT

BEST BUILDING RENOVATION AWARD

This award recognizes projects that transform existing buildings through impactful interior renovations or exceptional amenity spaces. Entries should demonstrate strong design, improved user experience, and meaningful value through thoughtful planning, innovation, and effective execution.

YOUR NOMINATION SHOULD ADDRESS:

- Describe the existing building and project objectives.
- Explain the scope of renovations or amenity enhancements.
- Demonstrate how the project improved the tenant or user experience.
- Highlight innovative design features, technology, or creative solutions.
- Describe sustainability, accessibility, wellness, or operational improvements.
- Share measurable outcomes, including increased engagement, occupancy, or building performance.

04 | HISTORIC OR ADAPTIVE REUSE PROJECT

BEST HISTORIC RESTORATION OR ADAPTIVE REUSE AWARD

This award recognizes an outstanding adaptive reuse project that restores, preserves, or re-imagines an existing structure while balancing historic character with modern functionality. Winning entries demonstrate strong design innovation, craftsmanship, and problem-solving, including the successful integration of modern systems, sustainability practices, and updated uses. Special consideration is given to projects that revitalize historic or underutilized properties, strengthen community identity, and extend the life of existing structures.

YOUR NOMINATION SHOULD ADDRESS:

- Provide the history and significance of the existing building.
- Explain the vision and strategy for restoring or re-purposing the property.
- Describe how the project preserved historic or architectural character.
- Highlight challenges encountered and how they were successfully resolved.
- Demonstrate sustainability benefits achieved through adaptive reuse.
- Explain the project's impact on the community and how it gave the building a renewed purpose.



2026 CREW DC AWARDS

PROJECT AWARDS



05

EXCELLENCE IN ARCHITECTURE

EXCELLENCE IN ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN AWARD

This award recognizes an architectural or design firm that delivers an exceptional project marked by design excellence, innovation, functionality, flexibility, and lasting impact. It honors projects that combine aesthetic vision with practical performance while addressing client goals and user needs. Special consideration is given to projects that solve complex challenges through innovative, collaborative approaches and positively influence their communities.

YOUR NOMINATION SHOULD ADDRESS:

- Describe the overall design vision, project objectives, and the client's goals.
- Explain how the design responds to the client's needs while balancing creativity, functionality, and performance.
- Highlight innovative design solutions, creative thinking, and the use of materials, technology, or spatial planning.
- Demonstrate how the design enhances functionality, accessibility, and the overall user experience.
- Describe sustainability initiatives, resilience, flexibility, and long-term adaptability incorporated into the project.
- Explain the complex design, technical, or site challenges encountered and how they were successfully resolved.
- Describe how collaboration with the client, stakeholders, and project team contributed to the project's success.

06

DEAL MAKING

BEST TENANT LEASE TRANSACTION OF THE YEAR AWARD



This award recognizes an outstanding tenant lease transaction that demonstrates strategic execution, creative structuring, and meaningful impact. It honors deals that align tenant needs with market opportunities while navigating complexity, risk, and negotiation challenges, and that deliver long-term value. Special consideration is given to transactions that overcome market constraints, involve unique property types, or set new benchmarks for the local or regional market.

YOUR NOMINATION SHOULD ADDRESS:

- Provide an overview of lease transactions and client objectives.
- Explain the complexity and significance of the transaction.
- Describe innovative negotiation strategies or lease structures.
- Highlight challenges encountered and how they were overcome.
- Demonstrate the long-term value delivered to the tenant.
- Explain the transaction's impact on the local commercial real estate market.

2026 CREW DC AWARDS

PROJECT AWARDS



07 | BASE BUILDING PROJECT BEST BASE BUILDING AWARD

This award celebrates exceptional ground-up construction projects that exemplify excellence in the built environment. Projects are evaluated on quality, technical complexity, innovation, sustainability, safety, schedule and budget performance, and the collaborative efforts that drove their success. Eligible projects should have a significant positive impact on their owners, users, and communities.

YOUR NOMINATION SHOULD ADDRESS:

- Provide an overview of the project, including size, scope, and objectives.
- Describe construction innovation, technical complexity, or unique project features.
- Highlight schedule, budget, quality, and safety performance.
- Explain sustainability, resilience, or environmental initiatives incorporated into the project.
- Describe collaboration among the owner, design team, contractor, and key stakeholders.
- Demonstrate measurable outcomes and the project's positive impact on its users, owners, and surrounding community.

LET'S GET STARTED!

Please review the category guidelines for this year's awards ceremony to confirm that your project or deal qualifies before submitting. Once you've verified eligibility, gather the required materials and submit everything according to the instructions provided in the category details. Be sure to complete your submission in full and on time so it can be properly considered for review. More information on each category is available in the link below.

The projects and deals must have been substantially completed between June 1, 2024 and July 31, 2026.

*All Awards with * require an active CREW member.*

READY TO SUBMIT?



2026 CREW DC AWARDS

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Step into a night of Glitter & Gold at the 2026 CREW DC Awards & Auction, hosted at The Mayflower Hotel. Together, we'll celebrate the trailblazers who are breaking the mold!



01 MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD

REQUIRES A CREW MEMBERSHIP

This award acknowledges a member with outstanding volunteer contribution, participation, and engagement in CREW DC. This individual demonstrates exceptional commitment to CREW's mission, actively contributes to its growth and success, and serves as an exemplary role model for their peers.

YOUR NOMINATION SHOULD ADDRESS:

- Describe the nominee's involvement and contributions to CREW DC.
- Highlight volunteer leadership, committee participation, and chapter engagement.
- Provide examples of how they have advanced CREW DC's mission.
- Demonstrate their impact on fellow members and the commercial real estate community.
- Include examples of collaboration, mentorship, or leadership.
- Demonstrate the nominee's overall impact on the chapter and commercial real estate community.

02 CHAMPION OF THE YEAR AWARD

REQUIRES A CREW MEMBERSHIP

This award recognizes an outstanding mid-level professional who is not only excelling in their own career but also providing support and encouragement for the professional development of others. This champion demonstrates extraordinary talent within their organization and is paving the way for others to follow. They are a tenacious leader in the commercial real estate industry, empowering and inspiring through mentorship, guidance, and engagement with peers.

YOUR NOMINATION SHOULD ADDRESS:

- Highlight the nominee's professional accomplishments and career growth.
- Describe how they mentor, support, and develop others.
- Provide examples of leadership within their organization and the industry.
- Demonstrate how they empower colleagues and foster professional development.
- Share examples of collaboration, engagement, and service.
- Demonstrate the nominee's impact on colleagues, clients, and the industry.



2026 CREW DC AWARDS

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS



03 | LEADER OF IMPACT AWARD

REQUIRES A CREW MEMBERSHIP | MORE THAN 20 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

This prestigious award recognizes a senior-level, highly successful leader who has broken multiple barriers in the commercial real estate industry. They have the authority and power to move the needle and are respected for their company and industry accomplishments. They have forged a path for the next generation of leaders. This leader has leveraged their network, encouraging others to pursue personal and professional opportunities to advance their careers.

YOUR NOMINATION SHOULD ADDRESS:

- Describe the nominee's involvement and contributions to CREW DC.
- Highlight volunteer leadership, committee participation, and chapter engagement.
- Provide examples of how they have advanced CREW DC's mission.
- Demonstrate their impact on fellow members and the commercial real estate community.
- Include examples of collaboration, mentorship, or leadership.
- Demonstrate the nominee's overall impact on the chapter and commercial real estate community.

04 | EMERGING LEADER AWARD

REQUIRES A CREW MEMBERSHIP | FEWER THAN 10 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

The Emerging Leader award recognizes an up-and-coming professional for their contributions and commitment to the industry. They have achieved much already, demonstrating outstanding professional accomplishments within their organization. They guide and inspire those around them. This leader, from whom we anticipate big things, is a go-getter. A person we see blazing into the future with character, grit and a dedication to growth.

YOUR NOMINATION SHOULD ADDRESS:

- Highlight the nominee's career accomplishments and professional growth.
- Describe examples of leadership, initiative, and innovation.
- Demonstrate their commitment to the commercial real estate industry.
- Share examples of mentorship, collaboration, or community involvement.
- Explain how they have made an impact early in their career.
- Describe why they are a future leader in the industry.



2026 CREW DC AWARDS

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS



05 | RAISE UP YOUR VOICE AWARD

REQUIRES A CREW MEMBERSHIP

Awarded to an individual who exemplifies a strong commitment to social, economic, and political equity by raising up the voices of under-represented groups in commercial real estate. They support movement toward equity through active engagement, education, and policy reform to encourage diversity and reduce disparities. They are a voice for inclusivity on the pathway to fairer and more just systems in our communities. This leader demonstrates the exceptional ability to motivate change, promoting equal opportunities for all. They are a distinguished individual exhibiting outstanding leadership and determination in the movement for equality.

YOUR NOMINATION SHOULD ADDRESS:

- Describe the nominee's commitment to advancing equity and inclusion.
- Provide examples of advocacy, education, or community engagement.
- Demonstrate how they have amplified underrepresented voices.
- Highlight measurable outcomes or lasting community impact.
- Share examples of leadership that inspires positive change.
- Explain why this individual is making a meaningful difference.

06 | GAME CHANGER AWARD

DOES NOT REQUIRE A CREW MEMBERSHIP

The Game-Changer Award recognizes a senior-level executive who demonstrates an outstanding commitment to the broader community. This individual actively drives the evolution and growth of the built environment while honoring and preserving cultural identity. Through visionary leadership, they foster inclusive spaces that bring people together and strengthen the fabric of the community.

YOUR NOMINATION SHOULD ADDRESS:

- Describe the nominee's impact on the broader community.
- Explain how they have influenced the evolution of the built environment.
- Highlight leadership that has strengthened or transformed communities.
- Provide examples of preserving culture, fostering inclusion, or improving quality of life.
- Demonstrate measurable community or industry impact.
- Explain why this individual is a true game-changer.



2026 CREW DC AWARDS INDIVIDUAL AWARDS



07 | 2026 BOARD NOMINATION LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The CREW DC Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes a member whose career and service exemplify the highest standards of the commercial real estate industry and embody CREW's mission to advance women in CRE. It is the chapter's most distinguished honor, reserved for those whose contributions have shaped CREW DC, the broader industry, and the CREW Network community.

TO BE ELIGIBLE, YOUR NOMINATION SHOULD ADDRESS:

- Be a current or emeritus full member of the CREW DC chapter in good standing; posthumous nominations will be considered
- Have 25+ years of experience in a qualified field of commercial real estate (QFCRE)
- Have served on the CREW DC Board of Directors, with service as President strongly preferred
- Have demonstrated meaningful contribution at the CREW Network level (committee, council, board, or comparable engagement)
- Have a sustained record of advancing women in commercial real estate through mentorship, advocacy, business policy, and leadership
- Not be a sitting member of the current Board of Directors

NOMINATIONS:

Nominations are made exclusively by sitting members of the CREW DC Board of Directors. There is no self-nomination, public call for submissions, or external solicitation. The nominating board member submits a brief written nomination outlining the candidate's career accomplishments, board and Network service, and demonstrated impact on advancing women in the industry.

LET'S GET STARTED!

Please review the category guidelines for this year's awards ceremony to confirm that your individual submission qualifies before submitting. Once you've verified eligibility, gather the required materials and submit everything according to the instructions provided in the category details. Be sure to complete your submission in full and on time so it can be properly considered for review. Click the link below to complete the process.



READY TO SUBMIT?