22nd HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

Public Leadership Awards

SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

McNAMARA ALUMNI CENTER | UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION

What you do, what each of us does, has an effect on the country, the state, the nation, and the world."

–HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

HUMPHREY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

22nd HUBERT H. HUMPHREY PUBLIC LEADERSHIP AWARDS

SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

The Hubert H. Humphrey Public Leadership Awards presented by the Humphrey School of Public Affairs honor individuals and organizations who have contributed to the common good through leadership and service.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THIS IMPORTANT COMMUNITY EVENT!

This year's awards recognize remarkable leaders who share a commitment to stimulate hope, opportunity, and engagement in a diverse and changing world.

**JOIN US THIS YEAR,
AND HELP SUPPORT FUTURE LEADERS
IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS.**

To secure your sponsorship, contact:
Megan Diefenbach-Healy, *Advancement Operations Specialist*
megandh@umn.edu | (612) 626-0529

2026 PUBLIC LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

HUBERT H. (SKIP) HUMPHREY III

For a lifetime of championing Minnesotans' health, safety, and consumer protection. Skip Humphrey led landmark public health victories, empowered informed communities, and protected older adults. He has advanced a legacy of principled service in the mold of his father, our School's namesake, that continues to shape Minnesota's well-being and civic leadership.

CARTER FAMILY

For generations of public service rooted in St. Paul's Rondo neighborhood, including: Melvin Carter Jr., who helped integrate the St. Paul Police Department and founded Save Our Sons; Toni Carter, the first African American elected to a county board in Minnesota; Melvin Carter III, the Capital City's first African American mayor; and Dr. Sakeena Futrell-Carter, a certified nurse midwife and women's health advocate.

NORMAN ORNSTEIN

Prominent political scientist, longtime scholar at the American Enterprise Institute and Minnesota native. He has helped shape national conversations around America's political institutions and elections with clarity, insight, and a deep commitment to democratic values. He established a foundation in honor of his late son Matthew to advocate for mental health initiatives and urban debate programs.

CIVIC SPIRIT OF MINNESOTA

Honoring the Minnesotans who showed up for our neighbors when it mattered most. We celebrate all those who opened their doors, mobilized resources, met immediate needs, supported families and students, and helped protect rights and navigate complex systems. They demonstrated the compassion, courage, and collective leadership that define the very best of Minnesota.

WE CONNECT YOU TO LEADERS WHO CREATE A BETTER WORLD—FOR EVERYONE.

The Hubert H. Humphrey Public Leadership Awards are presented at an annual dinner, which is one of the Twin Cities' most anticipated social gatherings. During the past 20 years, we have honored 88 award recipients and raised more than $2 million for student scholarships.

AN EVENT NOT TO MISS!

Each year, hundreds of people join us on this special evening to recognize remarkable leaders who have dedicated their lives to addressing the most pressing problems in our own communities and around the world. Attendees include some of Minnesota's most prominent political, business, and civic leaders, including U.S. senators, Minnesota Supreme Court justices, philanthropists, and top University of Minnesota administrators.

> **The Humphrey School is so vital. This is a community committed to changing the world. This is the place that is training the leaders of tomorrow who will direct that change. And that's never been more needed than today.**
>
> – Joan Growe, 2025 recipient

PAST WINNERS INCLUDE

Madeleine Albright
Ann Bancroft
Sharon Sayles Belton
Margaret Chutich
Marilyn Carlson Nelson
Denis McDonough
Walter Mondale
Alan Page
Cheryl Reeve
Will Steger
Tom Swain
Thomas Friedman
David Durenberger
Melissa Hortman
Josie R. Johnson

THIS YEAR, MORE THAN EVER, WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Your sponsorship supports the Public Leaders Fellowship Fund, which provides scholarships to our students who are committed to public service. We invite you to become a sponsor of this year's Public Leadership Awards, to ensure that this scholarship fund thrives well into the future.

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS:

- Champion—**$50,000**
- Dean's Circle—**$25,000**
- Friends of the Humphrey School—**$10,000**
- Supporter—**$5,000**
- Table—**$3,000**

Note that sponsoring at the CHAMPION level includes a scholarship named for your organization to support two students for the 2026-27 academic year.

If you are paying through a donor-advised fund, contact Megan Diefenbach-Healy, Advancement Operations Specialist, at megandh@umn.edu or (612) 626-0529.

See all the benefits for every sponsorship level on the next page.

Your support helps make the Humphrey School and the world of public policy more representative and diverse.

Thank you!

RECENT HUMPHREY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

BRIAN BRANNON
HUMPHREY PUBLIC LEADERS FELLOW

Brian arrived at the Humphrey School unsure if he wanted to study urban planning or public policy. Now, he's in his second year as a Master of Urban and Regional Planning student who has found a sense of direction for his future. His education has been complemented by an internship in planning and urban design with Metro Transit, and he looks forward to continuing to connect with other planners in the Twin Cities and graduating with a proven interest in public service.

"Thank you for your generosity. Kindness begets more kindness. In addition to funding our education your generous donations [are] a lesson in the importance of giving back."

KATIE BRUNELL
EILEEN M. BAUMGARTNER FELLOW

Katie is a Master of Public Policy student concentrating in global policy. She chose the Humphrey School because of how well it aligns with her professional and academic priorities, and because studying policy in Minnesota gives her a front row seat to learn about how compromise and engagement shape meaningful policy. Though Katie was already committed to pursuing a career in government, the Humphrey School is helping her develop the skills she needs to be an effective public servant.

"I want to sincerely thank you for your generosity and for investing in students like me. Your support made it possible for me to return to school full time and to do so in Minnesota, which has made this experience feel both accessible and meaningful in a very personal way."

CHOOSE YOUR SPONSORSHIP LEVEL

	CHAMPION $50,000	DEAN'S CIRCLE $25,000	FRIENDS OF THE HUMPHREY SCHOOL 10,000	SUPPORTER $5,000	TABLE $3,000
PUBLIC RECOGNITION	Name and logo inclusion as 'Champion Sponsor' in all event materials, webpage, and social media promotion Name inclusion in weeklong paid media campaign on Minnesota Public Radio Named scholarship to support two Humphrey School students in 2026–'27	Logo inclusion on event webpage and marketing materials* Social media promotion such as Facebook and LinkedIn	Logo inclusion on event webpage	Name inclusion on event webpage	
EVENT RECOGNITION	One table of 8 seats Name and logo: • In event signage • In printed program • In event slideshow Speaker recognition during the program	One table of 8 seats Name and logo: • In event signage • In printed program • In event slideshow Speaker recognition during the program	One table of 8 seats Name and logo: • In event signage • In printed program • In event slideshow	One table of 8 seats Name inclusion in printed program	One table of 8 seats Name inclusion in printed program
RECEPTION	8 tickets to VIP reception	8 tickets to VIP reception	8 tickets to VIP reception	8 tickets to VIP reception	8 tickets to general reception
GUEST EXPERIENCE	Humphrey School gift for all table guests	Humphrey School gift for all table guests	Humphrey School gift for all table guests		

**commitment date dependent*

OUR MISSION:

The Humphrey School of Public Affairs educates, engages, and equips leaders and communities to discover solutions that advance the common good in our diverse world.

BECOME A SPONSOR:

To become a sponsor or to purchase a table, contact Advancement Operations Specialist Megan Diefenbach-Healy

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