



## **ANNUAL AWARD NOMINATION GUIDELINES (2023)**

The Cultivating Change Foundation’s mission is to value and elevate LGBTQ+ agriculturists through advocacy, education, and community. Through its annual awards program, the Foundation recognizes individuals and entities that help to advance that mission. The Foundation is seeking nominations for its annual awards, which are described below. Preference will be given to nominations received no later than August 1, 2023.

### **I. DESCRIPTION OF AWARD CATEGORIES**

1. **Agriculture Influencer Award.** The Agriculture Influencer Awards honors great agriculture companies and organizations that are committed to impacting the agriculture industry through intentional diversity and inclusion efforts and for their support of LGBTQ+ agriculturists. The Agriculture Influencer Award recognizes those who support the Cultivating Change Foundation and Summit through sponsorship, engagement, and promotion of the Cultivating Change Foundation. Past recipients include: Oregon Department of Agriculture (2022), BASF (2019), Tyson (2018), USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (2018), and Monsanto (2017).

2. **Cultivator of Change Award.** The Cultivator of Change Award recognizes individuals who have played a pivotal role in championing visibility and voice for the LGBTQ+ community within the agriculture industry, have shown a commitment to LGBTQ+ agriculturists, and will use their talents to further the cause of celebrating agriculture and celebrating people. Past recipients include: Colby Gregg (2022), John Boyes (2022), Justin Gayliard (2020), Jenneth Layaou (2020), Mark Poeschl (2019), Ellen Thompson (2018), and Karen Ross (2017).

3. **Cultivating Change Ally Award.** The Ally Award recognizes allies of the LGBTQ+ community who work to advance the perceptions of LGBTQ+ individuals in agriculture. Allies are not just people who accept LGBTQ+ individuals, but advocates for issues that serve to value and elevate LGBTQ+ individuals. Allies utilize their privilege or position of leadership to benefit the LGBTQ+ community. Past recipients include: David Nothmann (2022), Barbara Coty (2020), Melisa Augusto (2019), Stacy Bushgen (2018), Tino Rossi (2018), Katherine Soule (2018), and Meghan Walter (2018).

4. **Student Scholar Award.** The Student Scholar award recognizes students (undergraduate and graduate) who work to advance the mission of the Cultivating Change Foundation in a collegiate setting or in the community. Examples of relevant contributions include involvement or leadership in Students for Cultivating Change and research and/or programming that advances LGBTQ+ interests locally, regionally, nationally, or globally. Recipients of this award will receive an all-access pass to the 2024 Cultivating Change Summit. Past recipients include: Luke Badertscher (2022), Arwen Kaleshefski (2022), Kurtis Miller (2019), and Coleman Simpson (2018).

### **II. NOMINATING GUIDELINES**

A complete nomination packet will include:



1. Award Nomination Form. Please completely fill in all requested information in the attached nomination form.
2. Supporting Information. You are encouraged to include additional information in support of the nomination—not to exceed five pages in addition to the nomination form itself. Supporting information may include a description of significant contributions, resume information, references, articles, and any other information that will assist the Cultivating Change Foundation Board of Directors in reviewing nominations. Letters of support are particularly helpful to the Board of Directors in reviewing nominations.
3. Who May Nominate. Any person, group, entity, or institution may nominate one or more individuals, entities, or institutions to receive an award. Self-nominations are accepted and will be given the same consideration as any other nomination.
4. Submitting Nominations. Submit nominations to Kirk Maag by email at [kirk.maag@gmail.com](mailto:kirk.maag@gmail.com). Preference will be given to nominations received on or before August 1, 2023. For further assistance, please contact Kirk Maag at [kirk.maag@gmail.com](mailto:kirk.maag@gmail.com).

### III. SELECTION PROCESS

The Cultivating Change Foundation Board of Directors will review nominations for each award category and may recognize one or more recipient in each award category. The Board of Directors may choose not to recognize an award recipient in each award category every year.

### IV. RECOGNITION

Award recipients will be recognized on October 2, 2023 at the Cultivating Change Summit in Washington, DC.



## ANNUAL AWARD NOMINATION FORM (2023)

Category:  Agriculture Influencer  Cultivator of Change  Cultivating Change Ally  Student Scholar

Nominee Name (Individual or Entity): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Based on the nomination guidelines, explain why you believe the nominee is deserving of this award. You are strongly encouraged to attach additional information as outlined in the nomination guidelines to completely describe the nominee's unique qualifications. (Additional information not to exceed five pages.)

Nominating Group/Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Provide the name and contact information for two other people (at least one of whom does not work with the nominee) who the Foundation could contact to gather additional information about the nominee:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_