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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR INFORMATION CALL

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January 31, 2023

Ald. Milele A. Coggs  
(414) 286-2994

## Nominations now being accepted for 2023 Vel R. Phillips Trailblazer Award

The Vel R. Phillips Trailblazer Award is bestowed annually to recognize a female Milwaukeean who exemplifies Vel R. Phillips' legacy of selfless service and trailblazing work toward improving the quality of life for residents in Milwaukee. Nominations for the **2023 Vel R. Phillips Trailblazer Award** are now being accepted and are due by the close of business on **Friday, February 24**.

"There are countless people throughout Milwaukee who work to better our community, and the Vel R. Phillips Trailblazer Award is one avenue for us to recognize an individual who captures the spirit, dedication, and passion for Milwaukee that Vel Phillips demonstrated throughout her life," said **Alderman Milele A. Coggs**. "If you or someone you know fits the description of a trailblazer, make sure to nominate them for this prestigious award."

Nominations must include a description of the nominee's work in the areas of social justice and/or civic engagement, challenges the nominee has overcome in these areas, and any other examples of the nominee embodying the spirit of Vel R. Phillips.

Nominees must be female City of Milwaukee residents who are not publicly-elected officials. Applicants may nominate themselves or others. The winner will be announced during the Girl's Day @ City Hall program in March. For more information including detailed eligibility requirements and to secure a nomination form, please click [here](#), or contact Joanna Polanco at (414) 286-2366 or [jpolan@milwaukee.gov](mailto:jpolan@milwaukee.gov).

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**VEL R. PHILLIPS**

# TRAILBLAZER AWARD

**The Vel R. Phillips Trailblazer Award is bestowed annually recognizing female city residents who best exemplify Vel R. Phillips' legacy of selfless service and trailblazing work to improve the quality of life for residents in Milwaukee.**

## NOMINATION LETTER REQUIREMENTS

Write a nomination letter to include the following:

- ▶ Description of the nominee's work in the area of social justice and/or civic accomplishment
- ▶ Example(s) of instances when the nominee has been a defining force in this area
- ▶ Challenges that the nominee has overcome to work in the field of social justice and/or civic accomplishment or acted as an instrument for social justice and/or civic accomplishment
- ▶ List any related awards or recommendations that the nominee has received

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2023**

Submit a copy of your nomination letter (3 pages maximum) along with the completed nomination form and any supporting materials that would help the committee make its selection.



**DOWNLOAD FORM HERE**

[milwaukee.gov/VelRPhillipsTrailblazerAward](https://milwaukee.gov/VelRPhillipsTrailblazerAward)



**CONTACT/SUBMISSION INFO**

Joanna Polanco

City Clerk's Office  
City Hall, Room 205  
Milwaukee WI 53202

\*Nominees must be available to be interviewed by selection committee. Anyone can nominate themselves or others but nominees must be city residents who are not publicly elected officials. Award will be presented at Girls' Day @ City Hall

Any questions can be directed to Joanna Polanco either by phone at (414) 286-2366 or by email at [jpolan@milwaukee.gov](mailto:jpolan@milwaukee.gov).