



2026 marks the 26th anniversary of the **Phoenix Awards**, a celebration of the heart and soul of Lawrence's vibrant arts and culture community. Presented annually by the Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission, these prestigious awards recognize individuals whose extraordinary creativity, leadership, and dedication have made a lasting impact on the arts in Lawrence and enriched the community for generations to come.

All community members are warmly invited to submit nominations! Eligible nominees include emerging and established artists in the visual, literary, musical, theatrical, and media arts. Arts educators, administrators, patrons, advocates, volunteers, and supportive organizations are also eligible. While students are not eligible, their mentors and champions may be.

Join us in celebrating 26 years of creativity, dedication, and artistic excellence by nominating someone whose passion and talent make Lawrence shine brighter!

This year's awardees will be selected at the October 14, 2026 Cultural Arts Commission meeting. The Phoenix Award ceremony will be held in December 2026 as part of the Winter Inclusive Market at the Lied Center. Info: <https://lawrenceks.gov/prc/phoenix-awards/>

2026 Nomination Instructions and fillable form
NOMINATION DEADLINE: Monday, October 5, 2026, 10:00 p.m.

Please follow these instructions carefully in preparing your nomination.

Nominee and Nominator

Please give the name, address, phone, and email for **both** the Nominee and the Nominator. (Please note that family members are not eligible to nominate other family members and self-nominations are not accepted.)

Nominee

First Name	Last Name	
Street Address		
City	State	Zip
Phone	Email	

Nominator

First Name	Last Name	
Street Address		
City	State	Zip
Phone	Email	

Contact: Porter Arneill at parneill@lawrenceks.gov or 785.832.3449.

Nomination - The narrative of your nomination should address:

Why you believe the nominee deserves the Phoenix Award: The breadth and depth of the nominee's artistic or arts-related activities, a description of the contributions that the nominee has made to the excellence and /or availability of the arts in the community of Lawrence.

Nomination (you can attach up to one additional page if needed)

Support Materials (please submit both)

- ***A one-page letter of support*** from someone—other than the nominator or a family member of the nominee—who is well acquainted with the nominee's work in the arts.
- ***A one-page resume, CV or a list of the nominee's achievements in the arts.***

Optional: Up to three supporting documents of your choice, such as articles, digital files (e.g., audio or video clips), awards/recognitions, website links, additional letters of support, or reviews.

Email your completed nomination by 10:00 p.m. October 5, 2026, to: parneill@lawrenceks.gov.

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