



Recipients of the 12th Annual Community Champions Awards Honoring Individuals Who Make a Difference in Fresno County Communities

The Big Fresno Fair is proud to announce the recipients of the 2020 Big Fresno Fair Community Champions Awards, which were first established in 2008 to formally recognize individuals who demonstrated an extraordinary passion for the betterment of Fresno County.

The following individuals will be honored virtually Wednesday, October 7 on the Fair's website and on social media. Their names will be listed on The Big Fresno Fair website and will receive prominent visual recognition on The Big Fresno Fair Community Champions Wall at the Fresno Fairgrounds. Then in 2021, the Fair plans to honor all 2020 inductees at Opening Ceremonies.

- Virginia Colvin
- Karen Loomis

These individuals were nominated by community members, Big Fresno Fair staff or past Fair Board of Directors. Nominations were reviewed by The Big Fresno Fair Board of Directors and voted on at the September 2020 Board Meeting.

"We are honored and excited to announce the winners of the 2020 Community Champions Awards," said Lauri King, Deputy Manager II, The Big Fresno Fair. "This continues to be an incredible program that provides us with the important opportunity to recognize the amazing people in our community."

The 2020 Community Champion Award recipients join the 2008 – 2019 winners, which include the following, more recent winners. The complete list of historical winners is available [here](#).

2016

- Manuel Cunha, Community Champion, Humanitarian
- Misty Her, Community Champion, Educator
- Daniel Hofer, Community Champion, Youth
- Pat Ricchiuti, Community Champion, Volunteer

2017

- Ananya Vinay, Community Champion, Youth
- Peter Belezzuoli & Ralph Loya, Community Champion, Volunteer
- Mike "Papa Mike" McGarvin, Community Champion, Humanitarian
- Neil Dion, Community Champion, Educator

2018

- Danay Ferguson, Community Champion, Youth
- Lisa Benham-Lewis, Community Champion, Volunteer
- First Lady of Fresno State, Mary Borges Castro, Community Champion, Humanitarian
- Jeff Tedford, Community Champion, Educator

2019

- Ken Dias
- Hayden Tarr
- Manuel & Mona Prieto