

**The YaleWomen Award for Excellence: purpose and criteria
(Adopted 3/23/15)**

From time to time, YaleWomen, Inc. may recognize a particularly outstanding individual or individuals for either a singular contribution, or for contributions made over many years, to the goals and aspirations for which YaleWomen was founded, by bestowing its signature award. This award shall be known as the YaleWomen Award for Excellence and shall be given to an individual (or individuals) who has been an exceptional advocate for justice, equality, and access for women. The award may be bestowed once annually, or at some greater interval, at the discretion of the Council.

The primary purpose of this award shall be to acknowledge the work of the award recipient in advancing and giving voice to women's issues and to thank her. In addition, bestowal of this award will serve to emphasize the extraordinary importance of such efforts and allows the recipient to stand as an aspirational model for others.

The award should be given at an event that brings Yale women and friends together in fellowship. The award may only be presented to an individual who can be present at the award ceremony.

Although fundraising may take place, from time to time, in conjunction with the award ceremony, fundraising is not the primary purpose of the award or the event at which it is presented and the award should not be conferred on individuals based on their connection to potential donors.

This is YaleWomen's highest award. However, nothing in this policy shall preclude the creation of other kinds of YW awards, which the YW Council, from time to time, may deem appropriate.

Although the typical recipient of this award will be female, the award may be conferred upon a male who has worked for the same goals and satisfies the criteria for which the award is given.