



2017 NEIGHBORHOOD OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENTS

Each year since 1984, the Board of Directors of Neighborhoods, USA (NUSA) recognizes the commitment and work of neighborhoods in awarding the “Neighborhood of the Year” in multiple categories. A Grand Prize winner is then selected from the winner from each category. The 2017 award winners are:

Neighborhood of the Year Grand Prize Winner

I am Ubuntu: IndyEast Diversity & Inclusion Taskforce- Indianapolis, Ind.

Project: Near Eastside ReEntry Expo

NUSA named the I Am Ubuntu: IndyEast Diversity & Inclusion Task Force of Indianapolis the 2017 Grand Prize winner of the NOTY Awards during its 42nd annual conference in Omaha, Neb. The Near Eastside ReEntry Expo brought neighbors, service providers, business owners, city representatives, and community leaders from across the city’s Eastside together to celebrate neighbors who have returned from incarceration by bridging relationships between those who are impacted by incarceration and those who are not.



Physical Revitalization - Beautification

1st Place

Whitely Community Council - Muncie, Ind.

Project: Year of Color

The Year of Color was an ambitious series of public and private beautification projects consisting of painting, planting, repair and public art installation.



2nd Place

LaCrosse Homeowners Association - Renton, Wash.

Project: LaCrosse Community Garden & Bee Hive

In 2016 the LaCrosse Neighborhood Association worked with the City of Renton to construct two honey bee hive structures for their existing Community Garden, to provide critical pollination support, resulting in large crop yield and better quality produce that will benefit the entire community for years to come.



3rd Place

Westlink Neighborhood Association - Wichita, Kan.

Project: Westlink Neighborhood Association Tree Planting

Trees are one of the vitality’s of life. Kansas drought lost thousands, so Westlink Neighborhood Association, Inc. stepped up to plant 77 along a “little ditch”, which enhances flood control and returns the area to proper physical revitalization.



Social Revitalization – Neighborliness

1st Place

Chantilly Youth Group - Chantilly, Va.

Project: Meadows of Chantilly

Our mission at CYG is to unlock the potential of our youth, parents, and community members alike in order to build and sustain healthy communities. We are focused on improving the facilitation of diverse workshops available throughout Northern Virginia promoting a stronger emphasis on education, cultivating leadership, philanthropy, and foster respect for all.



2nd Place

Pullen Park Terrace - Raleigh, N.C.

Project: Kirby Derby Day

Kirby Derby Day is a creative neighborhood production of Pullen Park Terrace. Comprised of a parade, races and music, this annual event is an event without parallel in Raleigh. For 16 years Kirby Derby Day has been inviting it's greater community to celebrate creative expression of its local talent.



3rd Place

Historic Kenwood Neighborhood Association - St. Petersburg, Fla.

Project: Kenwood Kidz

Kenwood Kidz brings together young families new to the neighborhood in a social networking environment to encourage involvement in the neighborhood, to develop new friendships, and to assure good, productive use of the neighborhood park.



Finalist

Fairmont Neighborhood Association - Fort Worth, Texas

Project: Fairmont Festivus 2016

Fairmont's third annual Festivus in 2016 was a community-wide celebration where neighbors and visitors enjoyed a shuttled holiday light tour between two neighborhood destinations to gather, have fun, and share the holiday spirit.



Finalist

Miller Park-Minne Lusa Neighborhood Association - Omaha, Neb.

Project: Trick or Treat on the BOO-levard

The Minne Lusa Historic District transforms Minne Lusa Boulevard into the BOO-levard each Halloween where kids and families can come to themed "islands" to get candy and see family friendly decorations. The event promotes a feeling of neighborhood pride and safety for children and families throughout North Omaha.



Please see our winners from the Multi-Neighborhood Partnerships Category on the next page

Multi-Neighborhood Partnerships

1st Place

I am Ubuntu: IndyEast Diversity & Inclusion Taskforce - Indianapolis, Ind.

Project: Near Eastside ReEntry Expo

The Near Eastside ReEntry Expo brought neighbors, service providers, business owners, city representatives, and community leaders together from across the city's Eastside to celebrate neighbors who have returned from incarceration by bridging relationships between those who are impacted by incarceration and those who are not. The Expo was a place where neighbors could begin building a network of relationships in a supportive community to promote successful reentry.



2nd Place

Historic Rosedale Park Neighborhood Association - Fort Worth, Texas

Project: Historic Six Stop Initiative



The Historic Stop Six Initiative was created to develop a stronger educational foundation for toddlers, build stronger families, and revitalize our community by empowering our citizens. There needed to be more collaboration and unity amongst neighborhood associations to leverage resources and share best practices while creating a unified voice.