Congratulations to the NUSA 2020 Neighborhood of the Year Award Recipients!

**Physical Revitalization/Beautification**

The projects in this category focus on physical aspects of improving your neighborhood such as parks, lighting, litter control, traffic management, housing improvements, green spaces and business district enhancements.

1st Place
Historic Kenwood Neighborhood Association - St. Petersburg, FL
Historic Kenwood Public Arts Initiative

Recognized as the “Neighborhood of the Arts” by artist and non-artist neighbors, public art was absent from Historic Kenwood’s streets and park. In response, neighbors created a plan to build a collection of neighborhood art for all to enjoy. Funding came from neighborhood dining events and a City grant.

2nd Place
County Club Hills Twin Lakes (CCHTL) – Lima, OH
CCHTL Corn Hole Tournament and Valley Way Park Improvement

The CCHTL Corn Hole Tournament and Valley Way Park Improvement project was developed to support and then renovate a 414-foot-long walking path along Lost Creek from the street to the park shelter. The walking path had been damaged while fixing creek erosion and needed repairs to be used by residents.

3rd Place
Germania Park Neighborhood Association – Birmingham, AL
Junior Code Enforcers

Germania Park, working with the City of Birmingham Youth Services, developed the Youth Code Enforcement Program. This program was offered to youth ages 14-18 interested in building code enforcement, learning to inspect construction plans and buildings to ensure safety standards.
Social Revitalization/Neighborliness

This category features projects that focus on the social or cultural aspects of a neighborhood like safety, youth and/or senior programs, and activities that make neighbors feel connected and foster neighbors working together like an ice cream social, holiday celebration or festival.

1st Place
Las Familias de Rosemont Neighborhood Association - Fort Worth, TX
Cinco de Mayo Event

The Las Familias de Rosemont Neighborhood Association put on a Cinco de Mayo Celebration to help re-engage and revitalize their neighborhood association. By partnering with area agencies and with the help of their volunteers, they were able to have a successful event and get new neighbors involved and informed.

2nd Place
Jubilee Gardens Neighbourhood Watch - Nassau, Bahamas
Jubilee Bay Festival

Jubilee Gardens residents celebrated their neighborhood at the Jubilee Bay Festival. Open to all, neighborhood residents sold crafts, food, and services, and welcomed the community to their neighborhood.

3rd Place
Travis College Hill Neighbors - Garland, TX
"Becoming Garland Avenue” Musical Drama

Jubilee Gardens residents celebrated their neighborhood at the Jubilee Bay Festival. Open to all, neighborhood residents sold crafts, food, and services, and welcomed the community to their neighborhood.

Finalist
Oakridge Neighborhood Association
Oakridge Holiday Meals for Neighborhood Fire Stations
Multi-Neighborhood Partnerships

These projects are jointly produced by at least two neighborhoods or community organizations in a partnership effort, addressing either physical or social concerns.

1st Place
Bethany Lutheran Church - Indianapolis, IN
Bethany Community Gardens

Bethany Community Gardens was created in 2018 to Build Community through Gardening Together on the southside of Indianapolis. The Garden Council is preparing for another year of engaging neighbors and neighborhoods with gardening instruction, neighborhood information sessions, community meals, friendship building and giving those in need quality, fresh produce.

2nd Place
Southeast Roanoke Community Partners – Roanoke, VA
Love SE Fest

LOVE SE Fest is a free neighborhood party intended to strengthen pride and love for Southeast by bringing SE residents and citizens from the City of Roanoke together to enjoy an afternoon of outdoor activities, food, and music with neighbors and new friends.

3rd Place
8twelve Coalition - Muncie IN
8twelve Sense of Community

8twelve defines Sense of Community as when “residents, community associations, and partners identify with the neighborhood, feel connected, and support one another.” The 2019 Annual Action Plan was developed directly out of resident desires and included six partners who planned and executed events throughout the year to help neighbors feel better connected.
GRAND PRIZE
Neighborhood of the Year Award

The first-place winners from all three Neighborhood of the Year categories compete to become the Neighborhood of the Year and be awarded a cash prize of $1,000.

Historic Kenwood NA
Petersburg, FL
Historic Kenwood Public Arts Initiative

Who's Who in America Awards

The Who’s Who in America’s Neighborhoods award was created to recognize individuals whose work mirrors NUSA’s mission.

Governmental recipient - Includes elected officials, local or state government staff and paid neighborhood advocates and/or community leaders.

Judi Bailey
City of Vancouver, WA

Judi has developed and strengthened several programs and resources to support neighborhood associations and leaders. Mayor Anne McEnerny-Ogle, who nominated Judi, wrote, “Under Judi’s leadership, the City of Vancouver’s Office of Neighborhoods has engaged citizens in civic democracy through the City’s partnerships with neighborhood associations. This strengthens the City and builds an active and involved community. Through Judi’s leadership, the city government is linked with the neighborhood associations’ skills, ideas, and energy through responsive, coordinated services and activities. She’s used strong communication, leadership and problem solving skills to promote a sense of community and a safe, secure environment in which to live.”

Grassroots/Neighbor recipient - Includes non-paid neighborhood advocates and/or community leaders.

Shirley Walker-King
Garland, TX

Shirley has served on the board or as President for Summerfield of Garland Homeowners Association. She helps others in Garland overcome the obstacles of gender and race to pursue their career through her workshops, seminars and community involvement.

Her nominator, Laura Castillo De La Vega, writes, “Shirley does so much more than just live and run a business in Garland. She is a community role model, leader, and community mom. She celebrates people, service and sacrifice. Shirley believes you have to overshadow all the negativity with positivity, and that begins at a community level. We can’t build strong nations and worlds without strong community leaders, who is building a better world, one community at a time!”

“NUSA provides opportunities for diverse people and organizations to share their ideas, values, and experiences to build stronger communities.”
Congratulations to the NUSA 2020 Best Neighborhood Program Award Recipients!

**Physical Revitalization/Beautification**

The projects in this category recognizes the outstanding programs implemented by governmental entities, businesses, or not for profits to improve neighborhoods.

1st Place
Small Sparks Neighborhood Matching Grant Program
City of Riverside, CA

The Small Sparks Neighborhood Matching Grant Program supports local grassroots projects within Riverside’s 26 neighborhoods. Small Sparks provides cash to match community contributions of volunteer labor, donated professional services or materials, or cash donations in support of neighborhood-based self-help projects.

2nd Place
Neighborhood Partnership Grants
Tallahassee, FL

The Neighborhood Partnership Grant Program to provide direct funding for small-scale neighborhood-led revitalization projects in the Greater Frenchtown/Southside CRA district. The program focuses on physical improvements that increase neighborhood pride and awareness, identify the neighborhood to visitors, encourage greenspace and self-reliance, increase neighborhood and child safety, and promote art awareness.

3rd Place
UNO Community Center & Park
Northern Berkshire Community Coalition
North Adams, MA

The UNO Park in North Adams, Massachusetts, aims to be a congregating point for people of all ages in its neighborhoods by offering opportunities for gardening, basketball, and other programming facilitated by the UNO Community Center and local partners.

Finalists
City of Spartanburg, SC
Beaumont Mills Village
Playground Community Build

City of Cedar Hill – Cedar Hill, TX
Virginia Weaver Community Project Build

Click here to become a member of NUSA today!
Social Revitalization/Neighborliness

The applications in this category features projects that focus on the social or cultural aspects of a neighborhood like safety, youth and/or senior programs, and activities that make neighbors feel connected and foster neighbors working together like an ice cream social, holiday celebration or festival.

1st Place
Neighbor Fest!
City of Riverside, CA

The Our Riverside Our Neighborhoods (ORON) initiative is a citizen-led, citizen driven visioning and action-oriented planning process where residents work together to create unique strategies for each of Riverside’s 26 neighborhoods that began in 2013. Neighbor Fest is an event that was created to assist in moving the vision forward by using Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) principles in an all-inclusive, hands-on, fun way.

2nd Place
The Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Rx Program
City of Tallahassee, FL

Tallahassee’s Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Prescription Program is a cross-sector collaborative program that seeks to improve the overall health and well-being of Southside Tallahassee residents by focusing on behaviors linked to healthy nutrition choices, fruit and vegetable consumption and the clinical care needs of residents. Through a six-week course, the program teaches healthy nutrition, cooking skills, wellness tips, community building skills and incentivizes the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables by providing participants a voucher that is redeemable for produce at the Southside Farmers Market.

3rd Place
ILead Leadership Series
City of Orlando, FL

The I Lead Leadership series is a 6-week educational leadership program designed to effectively equip neighborhood leaders to serve their neighborhood. Over the 5 weeks, 12 board members learn leadership skills, community building techniques, and walk away with greater confidence to serve their neighborhood, and $250 for their neighborhood.

Finalists
Coral Springs Police Dept.
Summer Youth Program

City of Cuyahoga Falls
Front Yard Interaction Meetings

City of Mansfield, TX
Volunteer Program-West Side Project 2019

City of Raleigh, NC
Digital Connectors Program
**Congratulations to the NUSA 2020 Neighborhood Newsletter Award Recipients!**

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Coming this summer:

NEW NUSA Website!
ONLINE Classes:
- How to Run for the NUSA Board of Directors
- Tips for a Winning Awards Application
NUSA 2021 Workshop Tracks and Call for Proposals

Learn more about the Neighborhoods, USA organization – download the latest brochure!