

CIVIC CELEBRATION

Sponsorship Opportunities

Each year at our Civic Celebration, Citizens League gathers Minnesotans from diverse backgrounds, political parties, and ideologies for an evening to appreciate what makes us unique: an enduring civic culture, innovative leadership, and a commitment to public service.

At the 2026 Civic Celebration, we continue this tradition. Hundreds of civic leaders, policy thinkers, and community builders will gather for an evening to celebrate the people and ideas that make our state unique, and to recognize our 2026 honorees,

Sue Abderholden and Paul Williams.

Citizens League will also present the **Civic Changemaker** award to an emerging leader who is making a difference in their communities and enhancing Minnesota's civic culture in positive ways.

"Being in a room with civic leaders gives me hope for our town, our region and our world, thank you!"

- Civic Celebration attendee

Join us as an attendee and sponsor of our biggest event of the year! Your sponsorship helps recognize and lift up civic leaders, and supports the Citizens League's mission of engaging everyone in civic life and public policy to make Minnesota a better place to live and work for everyone.

Visit citizensleague.org/CivicCelebrationSponsor or contact Yvonne Lerew at ylerew@citizensleague.org for more information.

2026 Honorees



Sue Abderholden



Paul Williams

**April 16, 2026
5:30 - 8:30pm
Mosaic
Minneapolis**



As a Civic Celebration Sponsor, you show your commitment to inclusive civic engagement and to celebrating leaders who have had a positive impact on Minnesota, and beyond.

Civic Celebration April 16, 2026 Mosaic Minneapolis

The Civic Celebration is Citizens League's premier fundraising and networking event of the year. Sponsors will join hundreds of attendees including civic leaders, policy professionals, elected officials, business leaders, public service professionals, and community supporters.

Sponsors are recognized at the event and on all event related marketing materials. Marketing reach includes: Facebook (3,400+ followers), X (5,600+ followers), LinkedIn (2,000+ followers); and e-newsletter (6,000+ recipients), and company logo or name on event website.

Suggested sponsorship levels and benefits aligned to each of the levels are described on the next page. Citizens League is also open to taking a collaborative and flexible approach to design customized sponsor opportunities that fit your needs and interests.

Contact Yvonne Lerew at ylerew@citizensleague.org to explore additional options and more information.

Past Honorees Include

*Peter Bell
Sharon McMahon
Laysha Ward
Cyndi Lesher
Kathleen Blatz
Edwina García
Joan Growe
Kao Ly Ilean Her
Phyllis Rawls Goff
Charles R. Vig
Sharon Sayles Belton
David Durenberger
Richard Davis
Dr. Josie Johnson
Susan Kimberly
Wheelock Whitney
Dr. Glen Nelson
Alan Page
Al Quie
Don Fraser*

Sponsorship Levels

Sponsor Level	Number of tickets/tables	Recognition (at event & pre-event marketing)	Special Promotion Opportunities	Participation at event	Additional Information
Champion \$18,000	20 tickets with VIP access 2 front-row named tables	Top billing, prominent recognition, logo placement	Provide branded swag at event, 2 videos in pre-event marketing	Welcome guests and/or share brief video	Exclusive to one sponsor
Civic Changemaker \$15,000*	10 tickets with VIP access Front-row named table	Prominent recognition, logo placement	Promote sponsorship in pre-event marketing	Present award to Civic Changemaker honoree	Reserved by Comcast
Platinum \$10,000	10 tickets with VIP access Reserved named table	Prominent recognition, logo placement	Video or written promo in pre-event marketing		
Gold \$7,500	10 tickets with VIP access Reserved named table	Prominent recognition, logo placement	Written promo in pre-event marketing		
Silver \$5,000	10 tickets (4 with VIP access) Reserved named table	Prominent recognition, logo placement			
Bronze \$2,500	10 tickets (2 with VIP access) Reserved named table	Recognition, logo placement			
Advocate \$1,250	4 tickets	Recognition, logo placement			
Grassroots \$500	2 tickets	Recognition, logo placement			

*Financial Award (\$5,000) to Civic Changemaker honoree included in sponsorship.

Tickets

General Tickets: \$125

Includes one ticket; heavy appetizers; and cash bar

Pave the Way Tickets: \$200

Includes one ticket; heavy appetizers; cash bar; PLUS one donated Capitol Pathways student ticket



The Citizens League is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that creates opportunities for Minnesotans to engage in building a strong civic life and effective public policies.

We bring the League's vision to life through our core initiatives:



Citizens League is proud to host the [Minnesota Legislative Exchange \(MLE\)](#) - a first-in-the-nation effort to bridge divides, build trust and intentionally foster bipartisan relationships. Through the MLE, one Republican and one Democratic member of the Minnesota State Legislature are paired up to visit each other's districts, where they spend time together while learning more about each other and their communities.



Since its founding in 2016, the [Capitol Pathways internship program](#) has become a flagship program of the Citizens League. The program provides BIPOC college students with hands-on leadership, legislative and career readiness training alongside a paid policy internship with partnering organizations. With over 340 alumni, Capitol Pathways is bringing new leaders and change-makers into policymaking spaces at local, state and national levels.



Citizens League promotes a [variety of opportunities for Minnesotans to learn and increase their engagement](#) through a nonpartisan approach that represents diverse points of view. Through our Interconnected Rural-Urban Conversations (a collaborative with the Center for Rural Policy and Development), Mind Openers, Civics@Work, and other events, Citizens League works to increase awareness and civic participation.

Sponsoring the Civic Celebration is a great way to promote your organization's commitment to inclusive civic engagement and enhance its positive impact in Minnesota.