
STARR HURLEY WINS SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL'S VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

WASHINGTON, DC – Starr Hurley of Northern California Sister Cities has won Sister Cities International's 2014 Volunteer of the Year Award. The Volunteer of the Year Annual Award honors an exemplary volunteer for contributions to the sister city movement and recognizes the leadership and talent that benefit local sister city programs and the larger sister city network.

Ms. Hurley's involvement with the sister cities network began in 1988 with the Sacramento-Hamilton, New Zealand Sister City Program. Since then, Ms. Hurley has worked tirelessly to contribute to local and regional sister cities activities.

She currently serves on the Northern California Sister Cities Board of Directors, representing Sacramento and surrounding areas. Ms. Hurley is also chair of the Sacramento Sister Cities Council and President of Sacramento-Hamilton, New Zealand Sister City Program. In 2013, Ms. Hurley was a volunteer for the League of Cities Conference and assisted Sister Cities International's Northern California State Coordinators in growing the sister city network regionally.

Starr Hurley is a former Olympic skier, and was a Torch Bearer in 1960 at the opening of the 8th Winter Games in Squaw Valley, California. She was voted "Skier of the Year" by The Winter Sports Writers Association in 1963.

Sister Cities International's Annual Awards are awarded in several categories including Best Overall, Innovation (Arts & Culture, Economic Development, Energy/Sustainable Development, Humanitarian Assistance, and Youth & Education), Volunteer of the Year, and Youth Leadership. Award winners will be honored at a special ceremony on Saturday, August 2, during Sister Cities International's 58th Annual Conference in San Jose, California.

The Sister Cities International 58th Annual Conference will bring together elected and municipal officials, engaged citizens, diplomats, and business leaders in the exciting capital of Silicon Valley to discuss, "The Power of Digital Diplomacy". Conference sessions will provide attendees with opportunities to learn about strengthening their sister city programs through informative sessions led by experts and industry leaders. For more information on the 2014 Sister Cities International Annual Conference, please visit: www.SisterCitiesConference.org.

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About Sister Cities International

Founded by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956, Sister Cities International serves as the national membership organization for over 500 individual sister cities, counties, and states across the United States with relationships in 2,000 communities in 140 countries. This sister city network unites tens of thousands of citizen diplomats and volunteers who work tirelessly to promote peace and understanding through programs and projects focusing on arts and culture, youth and education, economic and sustainable development, and humanitarian assistance.

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