

2021 Cleveland Heritage Medal Criteria

No city can thrive without them. They are the dedicated community leaders committed to creating and sustaining a city of true greatness — one that provides opportunities for businesses to prosper, for new ideas to flourish, for cultural richness to thrive and for residents to enjoy the opportunity for an exceptional quality of life.

During its 225 years, Cleveland has been a city blessed with accomplished leaders from civic, business, philanthropic and government spheres. Their contributions have created the lasting heritage that makes Cleveland the city it is today.

Each recipient of the Cleveland Heritage Medal is a true representative of that legacy of leadership. Their impact on the city and region has far exceeded that which would be expected of them in their positions of influence.

Honorees are chosen during their lifetime; this recognition serves as a culmination of their esteemed service to Cleveland and its citizens. They will have been active members of the community for a minimum of 10 years, and they will not be current elected officials.

But for these extraordinary men and women, the magnificent story and history of Cleveland would not be what it is today.

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The Cleveland Heritage Medal was established in 2016 and, over the past five years, the following individuals have received the honor:

Thomas W. Adler
Jeanette Grasselli Brown
Toby Cosgrove, MD
Art D. Falco
Robert D. Gries
Carole F. Hoover
Bracy E. Lewis
Robert P. Madison, FAIA
Morton L. Mandel
Samuel H. Miller

Steven A. Minter
A. Malachi Mixon III
Reverend Dr. Otis Moss Jr.
Sandra Pianalto
Richard W. Pogue
Albert B. Ratner
Barbara S. Robinson
Jerry Sue Thornton, PhD
Senator George V. Voinovich
Michael R. White

Individuals chosen as recipients of the Cleveland Heritage Medal demonstrate leadership in civic, philanthropic or corporate spheres, or have made an impact in another private or public endeavor. Their community impact reflects **service to others** marked by compassion and selflessness. They espouse **teamwork** as necessary to making a difference in our community, actively encouraging the contributions of others.

The individuals we recognize demonstrate **courage and respect** as they take on difficult yet consequential initiatives for the good of Cleveland and its residents. These exceptional leaders are committed to fostering a community of **inclusion and diversity**, where differences are celebrated and all have the opportunity to participate. They are people of the highest character, serving as role models for others in the community.

Without them, the story of Cleveland could not be told.

Outstanding leaders are the foundation of a city's heritage.

The Cleveland Heritage Medal continues to recognize the breadth and diversity of leadership in our community.

With this honor, we celebrate the individuals who are creating today the great Cleveland of tomorrow.