



Overview:

The NC Main Street & Rural Planning Center is proud to annually recognize the efforts of dedicated individuals who have contributed to the success of the local programs across our state. A non-competitive award, the NC Main Street Champion designation honors those persons who have made extraordinary contributions to their downtown.

The NC Main Street & Rural Planning Center will individually recognize Champions with a video presentation and commemorative certificates celebrating this special honor during the Annual NC Main Street Conference.

Entry Deadline:

- September 30, 2022 | 5pm

Awards Ceremony:

- March 16, 2023 | Statesville

Who is Eligible to Nominate a Champion?

- Only communities that are a designated NC Main Street community are eligible to nominate a Champion.
- DAC and Small-Town Main Street communities may nominate once they move up to NC Main Street

Why Nominate?

Designating an NC Main Street Champion is a wonderful way to show your organization's appreciation for the efforts of a deserving person (or persons) who has/have gone the extra mile in working to make your downtown successful. A secondary benefit of designating a Champion is the opportunity it provides for generating goodwill and positive PR for your downtown program.

What Makes Someone Eligible for This High Honor?

NC Main Street Champions MUST BE PEOPLE, who have made a **SIGNIFICANT** impact in your downtown or your downtown program, ideally over the last year and who went above and beyond their volunteer or job responsibilities.

Once an NC Main Street Champion, always an NC Main Street Champion! If your program has previously honored someone as an NC Main Street Champion, that individual continues to be a Champion for your community and may not be re-designated by your program. However, someone who received the designation from another community and has made significant contributions to your downtown's revitalization efforts may also be named a Champion by your program.

Champion designation may fall under the following categories:

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| • An individual | <i>John Smith</i> |
| • A couple | <i>Jane and Lucy Smith</i> |
| • A civic organization board of directors | <i>Board of Directors Ayden Arts Council</i> |
| • Owners of a downtown business | <i>John Smith</i> |
| • Owners of a property | <i>John Smith</i> |
| • Governmental council | <i>Board of Commissioners, Town of Smallville</i> |
| • Departmental staff | <i>Public Works Staff, Town of Smallville</i> |

Champion nominations ARE NOT:

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| • A municipal entity | <i>Town of Smallville</i> |
| • A business | <i>Nil's Cafe</i> |
| • Staff of a business | <i>Nil's Café and Staff</i> |

Nomination Instructions

Please write the nomination in a word document.

- Text may not exceed 150 words
- Text must be in narrative style – no bullet points
- Text should include only information directly related to the Champion's contributions to downtown. * Information on family, civic involvements or religious affiliation is not relevant to this designation
- Text should provide enough detail to give a real sense of your Champion and his/her/their contributions to downtown
- Have someone to proofread your submission for content, grammar, and spelling before submitting online.

*The NC Main Street & Rural Planning Center reserves the right to edit the narrative text for length and content.

Nomination Photo

Please consider using a local photographer for your Champion's headshot. Remember that these photos will be on our NC Main Street Conference website. Make it your best shot.

Photos must:

- Be 1024 x 768 pixels with a file size of at least 1MB or higher. (Not checking the pixels will cause additional steps for you, so please make sure you have checked them prior to sending the image in.)
- Be taken in good lighting. If taking a photograph outside, make sure the photographer's back is to the sun.
- Be cognizant about the background you use for the photo.
- Be of ONLY the Champion(s). We cannot accept images that include any person(s) other than the Champion(s). Do not crop a photo so that only the champion(s) is showing.
- Be free of borders, labeling or date stamps.
- Not be altered with Photoshop
- SAVE YOUR IMAGE: Town Name_Champion Name

Submission

Text:

- Complete the online form:
- <https://www.ncmainstreetandplanning.com/main-street-champions-nomination>
- Copy and paste final nomination text in online form

Photo:

- SAVE YOUR IMAGE: Town/City Name, Champion Name
 - Example: Garner_John Doe
 - Edenton_Jane Doe
 - Lenoir_Jill Doe
- Upload your image at the bottom of the online form