

Ten Honored at Women of the World



Top Row (l to r): Chloe Ewalt, Elaine Phillips, Norma Imershein, Pamela Mackall, Rose Vought
Bottom Row (l to r): Sheila Montague Parker, Shelby Potts, Sydney Coojsey, Robyn Truslow

More than 150 people joined the Calvert County Commission for Women (CCCW) and its six community partner organizations on March 12 to celebrate the achievements and contributions of 10 outstanding Calvert County women at the 19th Annual Women of the World (WOW) Celebration.

Given the success of the virtual 2021 WOW and because of the unknowns about the pandemic as planning began for 2022, WOW was again held virtually this year with the Calvert Library providing skilled technical support. The 2022 Women of the World was chaired and coordinated by Joan Dowell Winship, chair of the Commission for Women.

The 50th anniversary of Title IX in 2022 provided the theme for this year's Women of the World. It was "Title IX at 50 – Celebrate and Know your IX," and was the ideal opportunity to celebrate and learn more about Title IX and its impact on women and girls...as well as society as a whole.

Each year the Commission for Women awards four Outstanding Achievements Awards. Nominations are sought community-wide in four categories: Advocacy, Business, Service and Woman of Tomorrow.

This year the recipients were:

- For Advocacy – Robyn Truslow, Public Relations Coordinator for the Calvert Library for her outstanding support for partnering with the Commission for Women and her advocacy for the rights of all people as well as advocacy on the environment, especially protection of land in Calvert County;
- For Business – Shelby Potts, currently Director of Admissions for the College of Southern Maryland, for her leadership with United Way and the many agencies, organizations, and people it serves as well as her work over the years with mentoring students in post-secondary education;
- For Service – Jennifer Lankford for her volunteer work as a first responder with volunteer fire departments as well as her nursing leadership, especially during the pandemic; and
- For Women of Tomorrow - Sydney Cooksey, a junior at Northern High

School who has been a student leader in school, and in several community service and youth organizations, and whose performance in school, sports and other activities as well as her volunteer leadership indicates she is truly a young woman of today as well as tomorrow.

Six community partner organizations helped in the planning of WOW. Each recognized an outstanding volunteer who has provided leadership and many contributions to their organization. The WOW partner organizations and their 2022 Women of the World Awardees are:

- Calvert County Historical Society – Chloe Ewalt;
- Calvert County Minority Business Alliance – Rosanna Vogt;
- Community Mediation Center of Calvert – Elaine Phillips;
- Concerned Black Women of Calvert County – Pamela Mackall;
- League of Women Voters of Calvert County – Norma Imershein; and
- NAACP – Calvert County Branch – Shelia Montague Parker.

Recipients received awards from the various organizations as well as citations from local, state and national elected leaders.

In addition to the award presentations, this year's WOW included an Inspiration and Land Acknowledgement led by Ariane Odom, former Vice Chair of the Commission for Women and member of the Piscataway-Conoy Tribe. The keynote speeches were presented by Margaret Dunkle, former Chair of the CCCW and a 'godmother of Title IX', who gave a very informative historical perspective through firsthand accounts of the early passage and implementation of Title IX.

Emily Martin, Vice President for Education and Workplace Justice at National Women's Law Center, provided her perspective on the key issues today that affect the full implementation of Title IX.

The entire program gave participants the opportunity to celebrate outstanding women in Calvert County and be inspired by efforts to continue to improve opportunities and achievements of women locally and beyond.

Press Release from CCCW.

Easter Festival in Chesapeake Beach

