

## Sample Diversity Award Nomination Summary

It is with great pleasure that I nominate John Smith for consideration for the Diversity Award in recognition of his outstanding leadership and tireless efforts in addressing and raising awareness about issues of equity, diversity, and inclusion both across campus and in our community.

The efforts of one person can be so staggering and can truly make a difference in how the Vanderbilt community embraces diversity and inclusion. John has represented Vanderbilt as a member of the board of directors for the Nashville LGBT Chamber of Commerce and has led them in their efforts to create a more inclusive work environment for all. He has worked with Vanderbilt's procurement department in the Chancellor's Diverse Supplier Initiative and has been vital in connecting minority owned businesses with Vanderbilt. John has managed Vanderbilt's sponsorship program for Nashville Pride, with over 20,000 in attendance, not only promoting Vanderbilt's brand and message, but securing countless volunteers.

John has spearheaded the Tennessee Equality Project which helps change laws that protect all of our diverse student population. He serves on the Mayor's Diversity Advisory committee, developing a plan that will ultimately assist all Metropolitan Government agencies, boards, and commissions in their efforts to recruit, hire and retain a workforce that is inclusive and representative of Nashville's diverse demographics and that serves as an example for the employers of this city and state. These efforts will aid in establishing Vanderbilt University as Tennessee's employer of choice.

He not only created the first Vanderbilt University Faculty and Staff Pride Affinity group, he is the director and serves on the committee that oversees the creation of all faculty and staff Affinity groups on campus. He works closely with the LGBTQI office to insure students have role models that represent their diverse and inclusive population. John is not only a past winner of the Vanderbilt University Commodore Award, he has also been recognized as one of Nashville's Emerging Leaders and we are so very lucky to have him on staff at Vanderbilt. I am limited to 2650 characters, but I could go on and on with the list of contributions and impact that John has had on enhancing diversity and inclusion in our community. I have also attached several letters of recommendations from John's colleagues to support my nomination.