



Greater West Bloomfield Michigan Week Press Release

February 1, 2024 *For immediate release*

Nominate by 2/16

What stories of selfless service will help shine a bright light on the mission and vision of your organization, as expressed through the effort of volunteers? Nominations are now open for the 2024 Greater West Bloomfield Michigan Week Awards. All nominations must be submitted and received by Friday, February 16, 2024 at www.michiganweek.org.

This year winners will be recognized at the Michigan Week Community Awards Breakfast on Friday, May 10, at Temple Israel, 5725 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield.

The theme is “Volunteers Make the World Go Round!”

There are numerous categories for both groups and individuals, both noncompetitive and competitive. All enrollees and nominees must either live, work, volunteer or attend school in Greater West Bloomfield – Cities of Keego Harbor, Orchard Lake Village, Sylvan Lake or West Bloomfield Township. These are the participating communities in the Michigan Week Community Awards. Please visit the website for criteria for each of the awards:

Noncompetitive

- Greater West Bloomfield Michigan Treasures Honor Roll (formerly Hidden Treasures Honor Roll)
- Youth Volunteer Leadership Awards

Competitive

- Volunteer Service Award
- Community Achievement Award
- Environmental Stewardship Award
- Jack Freed Emerging Leader Award
- Jeff Leib Lifetime Leadership Award

- Dr. Seymour Gretchko Youth Advocate Award – GROUP
- Dr. Seymour Gretchko Youth Advocate Award - INDIVIDUAL

Register

If you would like to attend the awards breakfast, registration is \$35 per person and is open March 8-April 19 online. Checks may also be made out to **Greater West Bloomfield Michigan Week, Inc.**, and can be mailed to **P.O. Box 704, Union Lake, MI 48387-0704**. Note **Michigan Week Breakfast** in Memo line. Include the name(s) of the guest(s) you are registering and/or the group you would like to be seated with at the breakfast.

Sponsor

If you would like to sponsor the event, the deadline is also April 19. Sponsorship levels listed at www.michiganweek.org. Sponsorships are available at different levels starting at \$125, and include guest reservations, website recognition, video banners and listing in program book, among others. Deadline is April 19, to be included in the program. Go to <http://www.michiganweek.org>, click on **Become a Sponsor** for a description of sponsorship packages.

History

Don Weeks, former State of Michigan Economic Development Director, launched the tradition of “Michigan Week” May 2, 1954. Mr. Weeks’ vision was to bring the business, labor, government and education communities under one banner to promote Michigan. The idea: an annual “Michigan Week” to allow residents to beat their drums for their state. In 1972, former Superintendent of West Bloomfield Schools, Dr. Anthony Witham, thought it was time to add Greater West Bloomfield to the list of communities in the State that celebrate Michigan Week. He gathered school, government, business and community leaders to brainstorm a week-long calendar of events that would showcase strong local values, talent and excellence.

Today, the communities of Keego Harbor, Sylvan Lake, Orchard Lake Village, and West Bloomfield Township continue to champion an awards breakfast that celebrates community achievement and volunteer leadership. Locally, the tradition of Michigan Week has grown into Michigan Month and the GWB Community Awards Breakfast now includes significant involvement from Bloomfield Hills Schools, Walled Lake Consolidated Schools and West Bloomfield School District.

Local Michigan Week events have changed over the years but according to state officials, the “Greater West Bloomfield community continues to have one of the oldest and most vibrant Michigan Week celebrations in the entire state (Detroit Free Press, 5/21/2006).” Greater West Bloomfield volunteers give their time, talent, and personal resources on a daily basis without regard for recognition or promotion. We invite you to help us celebrate and recognize these individuals and organizations that serve our community year-round. The Greater West Bloomfield Michigan Week Committee is non-partisan, and a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

Contact

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