



## MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE: Immediately  
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### **Nominate a Former Highline Student for Alumni Award** Awardee Will be Recognized at Commencement, June 18

DES MOINES, Wash. — Do you know a Highline College alum who is making an impact in their community?

Now is your chance to honor them.

Nominations are now open for the 2026 Distinguished Alumni Award and close Friday, April 24. This annual award honors former Highline students who have made notable achievements in their profession or society.

Last year's recipient was [Jenessa Pettit](#), a nursing instructor and entrepreneur who was awarded for her impact on healthcare, education, and her community.

This year's winner, to be selected this spring, will join 2024 winner [Rahma Rashid](#), the founder of Seattle nonprofit [Muslimahs Against Abuse Center](#) (MAAC), and [1990 winner Norm Rice](#), the award's first recipient and former mayor of Seattle. Rice attended Highline in 1968–69.

Other [past recipients](#) include Michele Pedicone, a respiratory care therapist and allied health professor in New York, Angela Sheffey-Bogan, a principal at a local elementary school, Ed Ramos, accountant and veteran, and Ann Rule, an internationally recognized crime author.

Eligible nominees are former students who attended Highline five or more years ago (prior to the 2021–2022 academic year).

The college is looking for nominees who have made a significant contribution through community service, noteworthy professional achievement and/or recognized leadership. Nominations may be submitted by faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends of Highline.

Nominees will be asked to submit a resume and personal profile questionnaire for review by a campus selection committee. The winner will be selected in spring and recognized at Highline's Commencement ceremony on June 18, 2026.

[An online nomination form](#) is available through the [Alumni Relations website](#). The due date is Friday, April 24, 2026. Nominations may also be emailed to Tanisha Williams at [twilliam@highline.edu](mailto:twilliam@highline.edu) or mailed to:

### **Highline College Alumni Relations**

PO Box 98000 MS CV-3  
Des Moines, WA 98198

### **Questions?**

Contact Tanisha Williams at [twilliam@highline.edu](mailto:twilliam@highline.edu).

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### **Links within this release:**

- <https://highline.edu/about/newsroom/news/distinguished-alumna-2025.html>
- <https://highline.edu/about/newsroom/news/alumna-award-2024.html>
- <https://ma-ac.org/>
- <https://alumni.highline.edu/alumni-recognition/rice>
- [https://alumni.highline.edu/alumni-recognition?\\_gl=1\\*w73xa6\\*\\_ga\\*MTI5NTQ4Mzc2My4xNzcxODU1MjY0\\*\\_ga\\_B283LNCPJ6\\*czE3NzE4NjY4OTkkbzEzJGcxJHQxNzcxODY4Nzg0JGo2MCRsMCRoMA..](https://alumni.highline.edu/alumni-recognition?_gl=1*w73xa6*_ga*MTI5NTQ4Mzc2My4xNzcxODU1MjY0*_ga_B283LNCPJ6*czE3NzE4NjY4OTkkbzEzJGcxJHQxNzcxODY4Nzg0JGo2MCRsMCRoMA..)
- [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeZaYIppY0lceDAvm3Nixgr-Dp81zkGAX-pGvvGv1H\\_Gj\\_iug/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeZaYIppY0lceDAvm3Nixgr-Dp81zkGAX-pGvvGv1H_Gj_iug/viewform)
- <https://alumni.highline.edu/alumni-recognition/nominate>

### **About Highline College**

*Founded in 1961 as the first community college in King County, Highline College annually serves approximately 14,000 students. With more than 80 percent students of color, Highline is the most diverse higher education institution in the state. The college offers a wide range of academic transfer, professional-technical education, basic skills and applied bachelor's degree programs. Alumni include former Seattle Mayor Norm Rice, internationally acclaimed author Ann Rule, entrepreneur Junki Yoshida, Dr. Tom Jackson, former president of Cal-Poly Humboldt and retired Army Lieutenant Colonel and nurse Sandra Cravens Robinson.*