



Call for Nominations for the Melwood 2020 Ability Awards Awards Dinner will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the ADA

Do you know an organization or individual who has innovated, advocated for or accelerated the inclusion of individuals of differing abilities in the workforce? Nominate them for the Melwood 2020 Ability Awards!

Melwood, one of the largest nonprofit employers of individuals of differing abilities in the nation, will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) by recognizing the companies, organizations, universities, programs, nonprofits, public entities and individuals who have advanced the field of employment for individuals of differing abilities and injured veterans.

The 2020 Melwood Ability Awards will recognize companies at the forefront of hiring neurodiverse talent, assistive technology companies, researchers and innovators who advance our scientific understanding of “differing abilities”, public/private partnerships which have provided a roadmap for funding and collaboration and individual champions and trailblazers who have made an impact.

Melwood will be announcing the winners at the Awards Dinner on Tuesday, April 28, 2020 at 6:00pm at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in Washington, DC.

2020 ABILITY AWARDS – CRITERIA

ACCELERATOR AWARD

Melwood’s Accelerator Award celebrates individuals, programs, and/or organizations that are paving the way for ADA 2.0 by innovating and pushing boundaries towards this end.

ADVOCACY AWARD

Melwood’s Advocacy Award recognizes individuals, programs, and/or organizations whose advocacy has had a substantial impact on the employment rights of people of differing abilities.

IMPACT AWARD

Melwood’s Impact Award honors individuals, programs and/or organizations that have achieved extraordinary outcomes related to neurodiversity and employment.

2020 ABILITY AWARDS – ELIGIBILITY

- Nominations for each of the 2020 Melwood Ability Awards are open to individuals, programs, businesses, nonprofits, universities, and/or public entities.
- Each nomination is evaluated by our multi-disciplined Judges Panel, and judged on the 2020 Ability Awards Criteria.
- Nominees are encouraged to employ focus, clarity, and precision in their responses so each entry can best be assessed on its merits. On the occasion when our Judges have questions, you may be contacted to provide additional information during the judging process.
- The Judges Panel will give favorable consideration to nominees that have demonstrated outstanding support and commitment to the principles embodied in Melwood’s Mission and Vision over a sustained period.