



## 2020 & 2021 Community Champions Award Recipients Honoring Individuals Who Make a Difference in Fresno County Communities

The Big Fresno Fair is proud to announce the recipients of the 2021 Big Fresno Fair Community Champions Awards, which were first established in 2008 to formally recognize individuals who demonstrated an extraordinary passion for the betterment of Fresno County. The 2021 Community Champion Award recipients, along with the 2020 winners will be formally honored at the 2021 Big Fresno Fair's Opening Ceremonies on Wednesday, October 6 at 3 p.m. in the Save Mart Wine Garden.

### 2020 Community Champion Award Winners

- Virginia Colvin
- Karen Loomis

### 2021 Community Champion Award Winner

- Michael Joseph Giovannetti

These individuals were nominated by community members, Big Fresno Fair staff or past Fair Board of Directors. Nominations were reviewed by The Big Fresno Fair Board of Directors and voted on at the August 2020 Board Meeting. All Big Fresno Fair Community Champions Award-winners will receive prominent visual recognition at the Fairgrounds, as well as receive a special Community Champions Award plaque at Opening Ceremonies. Award-winners will also be listed on The Big Fresno Fair website.

"This will mark the final year of The Big Fresno Fair's Community Champion Awards. It has been a true honor to provide a platform for the past 14 years to recognize some amazing individuals who have made life in Fresno County so much better," said Stacy Rianda, Deputy Manager II.

These Community Champion Award recipients join this more recent list of winners. View a complete list of [Community Champion Award recipients here](#).

### 2017

- Ananya Vinay, Community Champion, Youth
- Peter Belezzuoli & Ralph Loya, Community Champion, Volunteer
- Mike "Papa Mike" McGarvin, Community Champion, Humanitarian
- Neil Dion, Community Champion, Educator

### 2018

- Danay Ferguson, Community Champion, Youth
- Lisa Benham-Lewis, Community Champion, Volunteer
- First Lady of Fresno State, Mary Borges Castro, Community Champion, Humanitarian
- Jeff Tedford, Community Champion, Educator

### 2019

- Ken Dias, Community Champion, Educator
- Hayden Tarr, Community Champion, Youth
- Manuel & Mona Prieto, Community Champion, Special Award