Chesnut LGBT Person of the Year Award

Established in 2007 by the President’s Commission on Sexuality, Gender Diversity, and Queer Equality (formerly the President’s Commission on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns), this annual award recognizes a member of Emory University’s LGBT community. University students, faculty, staff, and alumni (including graduates working beyond the campus) are eligible. Recipients are selected based on one or more of the following:

- outstanding service to the LGBT community through participation in a volunteer organization
- extraordinary contributions made through a special initiative or project that benefits LGBT people
- demonstrated leadership in an organization, program, project, or other effort that advances equity and awareness of the LGBT community
- distinguished achievement in business, the arts, the professions, government, or education that specifically benefits the LGBT community
- volunteer service to LGBT people through community activism and advocacy
- mentoring, outreach, and role-modeling for other LGBT and non-LGBT people with the aim of fostering understanding and support for the LGBT community

Any member of the Emory community may nominate a candidate for the Chesnut Award. Nominations are accepted via online form found at the Office of LGBT Life website. Required information includes:

- the name of the nominee,
- their title and profession,
- their affiliation with Emory,
- a description of how the nominee has fulfilled one or more of the core activities above
- contact information for both the nominee and the nominator.

Recipients are chosen by the Office of LGBT Life Advisory Committee. Winners are announced at the annual Pride Awards.