



# TRANSCENTER FOR YOUTH

SHALOM

NOVA

EL PUENTE

ESCUELA VERDE

NOVA TECH

## 2018 Business Awards Banquet Celebrating 45 Years of Innovation in Education

### **Mission**

The mission of TransCenter for Youth, Inc. is to provide high quality educational programs that allow “at-risk” youth and others to become productive adults and responsible community members. TransCenter’s work can be seen as part of an effort to build a new vision of public education, which begins with the understanding that all children are part of “the public” and that all children deserve adequate public funding equitably distributed to learning environments that parents and young people have chosen and that are accountable for results.

### **History**

TransCenter for Youth began working with “at-risk” and adjudicated youth in 1969. In May of 1973, TransCenter registered as a nonprofit corporation in the State of Wisconsin and was recognized as a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt organization by the Internal Revenue Service in the fall of that year. Today, TransCenter for Youth operates five schools in Milwaukee: El Puente High School, Escuela Verde, Northwest Opportunities Vocational Academy (NOVA), NOVA Tech, and Shalom High School.

### **A Model for Educators and Students**

TransCenter’s schools have been visited and studied by educators from Russia, Japan, Germany, Great Britain, South Africa and from all over the United States. They have been featured in articles and books published by the National Center on Education and the Economy, Jobs for the Future, the Academy for Educational Development, the National Network for Youth, the Wisconsin Association of School Boards, the Carnegie Reporter, and Holistic Education Press.

### **2018 TransCenter for Youth Business Awards for Leadership**

TransCenter for Youth wishes to recognize outstanding local businesses and/or organizations that are leading the way for the Greater Milwaukee area in the areas of tenacity, wellness, providing bridges to opportunities, sustainability and STEM. Please complete the nomination form for a business or organization and submit it no later than the **deadline date of August 21, 2018**. (Under the criteria below, you may submit your own name and business or organization affiliation.)

## **Award Evaluation Criteria**

With each award category, please include examples of quantitative and/or qualitative evidence of projects or initiatives that clearly demonstrate how the nominee meets one or more of the three criteria in any of the award categories below.

- **Had a Positive Impact** – This individual, business, or organization has provided outstanding evidence of a meaningful contribution and positive impact on the Greater Milwaukee community in the area of tenacity, wellness, providing bridges to opportunities, sustainability and STEM.
- **Engaged Partners** - This individual, business or organization created collaborative partnerships that were mutually beneficial and clearly addressed specific community needs that encompassed tenacity, wellness, providing bridges to opportunities, sustainability and STEM.
- **Overcame Challenges**– This individual or company took documented action that represented deep understanding of complex community problems, and/or alternative solutions then presented evidence and/or took action toward overcoming challenges within this community.

### **Shalom’s Tenacity Award**

Understanding individuals, businesses, and organizations have taken steps to offer extra guidance and support to those who need it most in offering options for non-traditional paths to success while maintaining a healthy life balance. We wish to recognize their efforts in leading the way through our Tenacity Award.

### **Nova’s Wellness Award**

Caring individuals, businesses, and organizations have taken steps to work towards community health and wellness initiatives for employees and equitable communities in order to address the health, well-being, and justice in our city. We wish to recognize their efforts in leading the way through our Wellness Award.

### **El Puente’s Bridge to Opportunities Award**

Visionary individuals, businesses, and organizations have taken steps to provide internships, scholarships, and postsecondary opportunities and experiences in order to address issues of access to opportunities for Milwaukee’s youth. We wish to recognize their efforts in leading the way through our Bridge to Opportunities Award.

### **Escuela Verde’s Sustainability Award**

Committed individuals, businesses, and organizations have taken steps to improve their community by creating lifelong positive relationships and spaces that benefit all, making our communities more environmentally and culturally sustainable. We wish to recognize their efforts in leading the way through our Sustainability Award.

### **Nova Tech’s STEM Cornerstone Award**

Forward-thinking individuals, businesses and organizations have taken steps to give youth opportunities to be prepared for careers in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) field after high school to address the career readiness gap in STEM education in our city. We wish to recognize their unique efforts in contributing to the career success of our urban youth through our STEM Cornerstone Award.