The Women of Courage Award
Supporting young women who exemplify the spirit of Congresswoman Jackie Speier in making the world a better place.

What is the award?

The Women of Courage Award is inspired by the lifetime work of Congresswoman Jackie Speier who in her roles as a mother, attorney, congressional staffer and elected official has shown resilience in overcoming tragedy and life threatening situations and fortitude in taking on powerful political forces. She has become a leading champion of women’s rights, individual privacy and consumer safety.

This $25,000 annual award is granted to young women who have demonstrated courage in overcoming challenges and obstacles and who have positively impacted the communities they serve. The award may be paid directly to the awardee, to an affiliated non-profit or social venture, as a scholarship to a university or for professional development.

Who is eligible for the award?

The award is open to female-identifying individuals (aged 18-30 years old) who live, work or serve others in San Mateo County. The Selection Committee is looking for women who are giving back to their community and have demonstrated compassion, resilience and integrity in their efforts to be of service to others.

How can I nominate someone?

Nominations can be submitted through an online form at https://www.venturesfoundation.org/nomination-form/. A nomination should come from someone who knows the nominee closely and can speak to their service work.

Nominations will be reviewed and the finalists will be interviewed by a selection committee. Candidates will be selected by a committee and finalists will be interviewed.

When are nominations due?

Nominations must be submitted by 4pm Friday, April 1, 2022 to be considered. Awardees will be announced in Late May 2022.

The Women of Courage Award was founded in 2020 by Cynthia Schuman, who was an accomplished artist and designer, philanthropist and community leader.