

[\[Home\]](#)

◆ GATEWAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Alumni & Friends](#)
[Current Students](#)
[Dukes Fans \(JMUSports.com\)](#)
[Faculty & Staff](#)
[Parents & Family](#)
[Prospective Students](#)
[Visitors](#)

◆ JMU NEWS HEADLINES

◆ MEDIA RELATIONS

[News Releases](#)
[News Extras](#)
[Rankings & Recognitions](#)
[Time & Place Releases](#)

DIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT, WOMAN OF DISTINCTION AWARDS PRESENTED

From: [Media Relations](#)

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HARRISONBURG — Three individuals and an academic department were cited for their significant efforts to enhance diversity at James Madison University at a campus awards program Thursday, Jan. 25.

Sponsored by the Office of the President, the Diversity Enhancement Award Program recognizes individuals and groups within the JMU community who have implemented policies, procedures or programs to enhance diversity at the university. An important aspect of the nomination process is that enhancing diversity is not a nominee's primary job function at JMU. The award program began last year.



Dr. Lin Rose, Dr. Daniel Wubah, Kate McDaniel, Chiquita King, Dr. Oris Griffin, Dr. Cheryl Talley

"With the changing demographics of our nation, it is important to recognize those who go beyond the call of duty to make our campus a welcoming place as we prepare the next generation of our citizenry," said Dr. Daniel A. Wubah, special assistant to the president. "These awards can be considered as a token of our appreciation for what trailblazers are doing and to encourage others to emulate their example. Each winner is a change agent."

This year's Diversity Enhancement Award Program winners are:

- Student Winner — **Chiquita King** of Franklin, a sophomore majoring in media arts and design
- Staff Winner — **Kate McDaniel**, an academic/career adviser in Career and Academic Planning
- Faculty Winner — **Dr. Oris Griffin**, an associate professor in the College of Education
- Department Winner — **Department of Psychology.**

Also during the Jan. 25 program, Woman of Distinction award winners were announced. The awards recognize women who inspire through their imagination, innovation and dedication. Exemplary talent, achievements, character and sincerity in serving at JMU are also part of the selection process.

The Woman of Distinction award winners are:

- Student Winner — **Jessica Killeen** of Alexandria, a senior majoring in political science and Spanish
- Staff Winner — **Kathy Sarver**, assistant director of the Madison Fund

- Faculty Winner — **Dr. Joanne Gabbin**, executive director of the Furious Flower Poetry Center.

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