NOMINATION GUIDE

NACD DIRECTORSHIP 100™

Setting the Standard.
Driving Boardroom Impact.
Leading with Integrity.

The NACD Directorship 100™ Awards celebrate and recognize the most influential directors and leaders in the corporate governance community who have demonstrated excellence in the boardroom through innovation, courage, and integrity.

SUBMIT A NOMINATION

Contact directorship100@nacdonline.org with any questions concerning the nomination process.

*Nominators create one profile for all nomination submissions. You may return to your profile at any time during the call for nominations period if you don't have time to complete your nomination in one sitting, or if you would like to add nominations.

NOMINATION GUIDE

NACD DIRECTORSHIP 100™

SUPPORT MATERIALS

B. KENNETH WEST LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD, DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR: PUBLIC, PRIVATE, NONPROFIT

- 1 Completed & Submitted Nomination Form
- 1 Current Biography
- 3 Minimum Letters of Recommendation

NACD DIRECTORSHIP 100™ DIRECTORS

NACD DIRECTORSHIP 100™ GOVERNANCE PROFESSIONALS

- 1 Completed & Submitted Nomination Form

UPCOMING

DATES TO REMEMBER

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OPEN	04/1
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS CLOSES	06/30
ANTICIPATED DATE FOR HONOREE ANNOUNCEMENT & PRESS RELEASE	09/15
NACD DIRECTORS SUMMIT & HONOREE ENGAGEMENT	10/11–14
NACD DIRECTORSHIP 100™ AWARDS PROGRAM & GALA NYC	12/7

SUBMIT A NOMINATION

NOMINATION CRITERIA: DIRECTORS

NACD DIRECTORSHIP 100

Demonstrated Boardroom Impact

Nominees should demonstrate recent board-level contributions that materially strengthened governance oversight, strategy, or organizational resilience (ideally within the past 24 months.)

Examples:

- strengthening board oversight frameworks
- guiding boards through major strategic transformation
- advancing cyber, technology, or AI oversight
- improving executive compensation governance
- strengthening risk oversight or regulatory readiness
- improving CEO succession oversight
- enhancing board decision-making processes

Governance Influence & Modernization

Nominees should demonstrate the ability to strengthen governance practices and influence how boards oversee emerging challenges. This category evaluates how directors help boards modernize governance frameworks and advance oversight practices.

Examples:

- modernizing board governance structures or committee oversight
- strengthening oversight of emerging risks (AI, cyber, geopolitical risk)
- improving capital allocation oversight
- strengthening board culture and governance processes
- contributing to governance dialogue through NACD engagement, thought leadership, or mentoring

Leadership & Governance Credibility

Nominees should demonstrate recognized stature as a corporate director and be respected for their ethical leadership, informed judgment across complex governance matters, and mature confidence in advising boards and executives.

Examples:

- exhibiting courage and leadership under duress, doing what is best for the corporation and its shareholders in the face of countervailing pressures inside or outside the boardroom
- having a track record for actions that have guided their company in maintaining consistent, long-term profitability, pursuing significant business opportunities, improving shareholder returns, and/or dealing effectively with a crisis or other major change
- valuing board and team performance over individual performance, keeping ego in check
- fostering an environment of constant improvement of strategic goals, performance, and innovation

SUBMIT A NOMINATION

***Exclusions: NACD board members of the 501c3 and 501c6 boards are ineligible for nomination for any NACD Directorship 100 category.**

NOMINATION CRITERIA: GOVERNANCE PROFESSIONALS

NACD DIRECTORSHIP 100™

Meaningful Boardroom Impact

Nominees should demonstrate recent contributions that strengthened governance practices or board oversight (ideally within the past 24–36 months).

Examples:

- modernizing board governance structures in shifting landscapes
- supporting robust board evaluation and board and CEO succession
- strengthening board risk oversight frameworks
- advancing cyber, technology, or AI governance
- improving executive compensation governance
- supporting board decision-making during strategic change or risk events

Governance Influence

Nominees should demonstrate the ability to influence governance practices and support effective board leadership.

Examples:

- advising boards or board committees
- shaping governance frameworks or policies
- advancing governance modernization
- contributing to industry governance dialogue or policy discussions

Leadership & Expertise

Nominees should have recognized expertise and leadership within the governance profession and be respected for their ethical leadership, informed judgment across complex governance matters, and mature confidence in advising boards and executives. They are viewed by peers as trusted advisors who contribute constructively within the evolving governance ecosystem.

Examples:

- leadership of governance-relevant functions or advisory practices
- governance credentials or professional recognition
- publications, speaking engagements, or governance thought leadership
- peer recognition as a trusted advisor to boards or governance leaders

SUBMIT A NOMINATION

***Exclusions: NACD board members of the 501c3 and 501c6 boards are ineligible for nomination for any NACD Directorship 100 category.**

NOMINATION GUIDE

NACD DIRECTORSHIP 100

B. KENNETH WEST LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The recipient of this award will be selected on the basis of distinguished service on public, private, and/or nonprofit boards over an extended period of time. He or she should be **a career-long model** of the four standards of exemplary director professionalism and may be either a current or a retired director.

In addition, a nominee should demonstrate dedication to the improvement of corporate governance practices, as evidenced by a reputation among peers and in the business community for excellent leadership. His or her exceptional achievements should have an impact that is visible in boardrooms today.

Nominations should endeavor **to illuminate the full scope of achievements throughout the nominee's board career.**

Donald Knauss
2025 B. Kenneth West Lifetime Achievement Award Honoree

Kellanova (formerly Kellogg)
McKesson
Target
University of San Diego Board of Trustees
Marine Corps University Foundation

Nomination Form

Nominee Information

- full name
- phone
- email
- LinkedIn profile (if available)

Board & Leadership Experience

- board bio
- current & prior board seats (public, private, nonprofit)
- committee leadership roles

Nomination Statement

Provide an overview of the nominee's career-long impact in the boardroom, including their leadership, influence on governance practices, and reputation as a trusted corporate director.

Boardroom Impact & Governance Leadership

Describe how the nominee has demonstrated sustained impact, governance influence, and leadership across their board service, including key contributions, outcomes, and their role in shaping effective board practices over time.

3 Letters of Recommendation

Nominator Information

- full name
- contact information

SUBMIT A NOMINATION

NOMINATION GUIDE

NACD DIRECTORSHIP 100

PUBLIC, PRIVATE, NONPROFIT DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR

This award recognizes outstanding recent achievements in public, private, and nonprofit board service. Three distinct honors are awarded: Public Company Director of the Year, Private Company Director of the Year, and Nonprofit Director of the Year.

Nominees exemplify NACD's core principles of director professionalism—integrity, mature confidence, informed judgment, and high-performance standards—through meaningful contributions in the boardroom.

Nominations should focus on recent boardroom impact, highlighting measurable contributions to governance, strategy, and organizational performance.

*Public Company Director of the Year candidates must currently serve in a board leadership role, such as board chair (exec or non-exec), lead director, or committee chair of a public company board at the time of nomination. This qualification does not apply to the Private Company or Nonprofit Director of the Year categories.

Patricia Bedient
2025 Public Company Director of the Year Award Honoree

Alaska Air Group
Park Hotels and Resorts
Suncor Energy
Oregon State University Foundation
Overlake Medical Center & Clinics

Nomination Form

Nominee Information

- full name
- phone
- email
- LinkedIn profile (if available)

Board & Leadership Experience

- board bio
- current board seats (public, private, nonprofit)
- committee chair appointments (required for public company nominees)

Nomination Statement

Provide an overview of the nominee's recent boardroom impact, including their leadership, governance contributions, and reputation as a high-performing corporate director. Focus on contributions within the past 24 months.

Boardroom Impact & Governance Leadership

Describe how the nominee has delivered meaningful recent impact in the boardroom, including their influence on governance practices, leadership in addressing complex challenges, and contributions to effective, high-performing board oversight.

3 Letters of Recommendation

Nominator Information

- full name
- contact information

SUBMIT A NOMINATION

NOMINATION GUIDE

NACD DIRECTORSHIP 100™

NACD DIRECTORSHIP 100: DIRECTORS

The 2026 NACD Directorship 100™ will recognize 100 directors and governance professionals who exemplify excellence in board leadership and corporate governance. Honorees are distinguished by their recent boardroom impact, their ability to influence and advance governance practices, and their reputation as trusted, high-performing leaders in the boardroom.

NACD Directorship 100™ director nominees are ideally nominated by a peer and are evaluated based on criteria aligned with NACD's standards of director professionalism, including integrity, informed judgment, mature confidence, and high-performance governance.

Eligible nominees must currently serve on at least one public, private, or nonprofit board and hold a leadership role, such as chairing a board committee, where they have demonstrated meaningful contributions to board effectiveness and oversight.

Nomination Form

Nominee Information

- full name
- phone
- email
- LinkedIn profile (if available)

Board & Leadership Experience

- boards currently serving on (public, private, nonprofit)
- Board leadership roles, including board chair, lead director, and/or committee chair appointments, as applicable.

Nomination Statement

Provide an overview of the nominee's recent boardroom impact, including their leadership, governance contributions, and reputation as a high-performing corporate director. Focus on contributions within the past 24 months.

Boardroom Impact & Governance Leadership (optional)

Describe how the nominee has delivered meaningful recent impact in the boardroom, including their influence on governance practices, leadership in addressing complex challenges, and contributions to effective, high-performing board oversight.

Nominator Information

- full name
- contact information

SUBMIT A NOMINATION

NOMINATION GUIDE

NACD DIRECTORSHIP 100™

NACD DIRECTORSHIP 100: GOVERNANCE PROFESSIONALS

The 2026 NACD Directorship 100™ will recognize 100 directors and governance professionals who exemplify excellence in board leadership and corporate governance. Governance professional honorees are distinguished by their recent impact in strengthening board effectiveness, their ability to influence and advance governance practices, and their role as trusted advisors to boards and executive leadership.

Nominations for NACD Directorship 100™ governance professionals should reflect NACD's standards of governance professionalism, including integrity, informed judgment, mature confidence, and high-performance execution, as demonstrated through meaningful contributions to board oversight, governance processes, and the broader governance community.

Nomination Form

Nominee Information

- full name
- title
- company / organization
- email
- LinkedIn profile (if available)

Board & Leadership Experience

- boards currently serving on, if applicable (public, private, nonprofit)

Nomination Statement

Provide an overview of the nominee's recent impact in advancing board effectiveness, including their leadership in governance practices, influence on board and committee operations, and reputation as a trusted advisor to directors and executive leadership.

Boardroom Impact & Governance Leadership (optional)

Describe how the nominee has delivered meaningful recent impact in strengthening board effectiveness, including their influence on governance practices, leadership in addressing complex challenges, and contributions as a trusted advisor supporting high-performing boards.

Nominator Information

- full name
- contact information

SUBMIT A NOMINATION

NACD DIRECTORSHIP 100™ EVENTS & ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

2026 AWARDS GALA INFORMATION

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

NACD DIRECTORS SUMMIT

For questions, please reach out to directorship100@nacdonline.org.

SUBMIT A NOMINATION