

## Willard M. McRae Community Diversity Award Recipients

- 2017**      **Lottie Scott**, Norwich  
City of Norwich Ellis Walker Ruley Committee; Norwich Arts Center; Norwich Historical Society; Norwich NAACP; Norwich Rotary Club
- 2016**      **Christopher George**, New Haven  
Executive Director, Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services (IRIS)
- 2015**      **Maria Campos-Harlow**, Wallingford  
Executive Director, Spanish Community of Wallingford
- 2014**      **Sara Chaney**, New London  
Product Manager, Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Center  
Community volunteer and mentor
- 2013**      **Teresa C. Younger**, Shelton  
Executive Director, Connecticut Permanent Commission on the Status of Women  
Past Chairperson, Girl Scouts of Connecticut
- 2012**      **Elsa Nuñez, Willimantic**  
President, Eastern Connecticut State University  
Founder, Eastern Academic Service Center and Dual College Enrollment Initiative
- 2011**      **Jacqueline Owens**, Lebanon  
President, Norwich Branch NAACP  
Co-Founder, Dr. Martin Luther King Luncheon and March, annual Black History Program, annual World Youth Celebration Day, and Community Kwanzaa Celebration
- 2010**      **Ulysses B. Hammond**, Waterford  
President, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Trust Fund  
Co-Founder and Co-Chair, New London Tutoring for Success Program  
Founder, Minority Student Support Program, Connecticut College
- 2009**      **Willard M. McRae**, Middletown  
Past chairman of the Board of Directors of Liberty Bank; founding member of the Board of Directors of the Liberty Bank Foundation; co-founder of the Middlesex Coalition for Children, the Middlesex Child and Adolescent Service System Program, and the Wesleyan University Upward Bound program
- 2008**      **Alejandro Melendez-Cooper**, New London  
Director of the Community Health Centers of Groton and New London  
Founder of the Hispanic Alliance of Southeastern Connecticut
- 2007**      **Arthur Meyers**, Middletown  
Director of the Russell Library
- 2006**      **Catina Caban-Owen**, Windham  
Social worker, Windham Public Schools  
Advocate for equal access to education and healthcare
- 2005**      **Joseph Sheffey**, Uncasville  
Founder of Child Adoption Resource Association, an adoption agency focusing on interracial placements
- 2004**      **Lydia Brewster**, Haddam Neck  
Community activist and founder of Middletown's North End Action Team
- 2003**      **Ramón Ortiz**, Willimantic  
Community activist and service coordinator for Village Heights Apartments
- 2002**      **Jane Glover**, New London  
Founder of Kenté Enterprises and former mayor of New London
- 2001**      **Claire Gaudiani**, New London  
Former president of Connecticut College and the New London Development Corporation