



Prescott YMCA Whiskey Row Marathon Al Clark Memorial Award Winner

May 5, 2018

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Award Nominee Name: *Celia Erickson*

Briefly describe nominee's connection with the Whiskey Row Marathon.

(include distance, # of years, volunteerism, event, etc.) In 2008, Celia's son James ran the half marathon and won first place in the overall men's division. Jim sadly died in a running accident a few weeks after he won, at the age of 23 on 05/23/08. Even though Celia was never a runner, she came up with the idea of running the WRM half marathon to remember and honor her son.

Briefly describe nominee's running history. (include distance, # of years, volunteerism, team training, etc.)

This will be Celia's 10th Whiskey Row Half Marathon this year.

Give an example of the nominee's "spirit of determination". Since Celia's first WRM race in 2009, she has made it a point to challenge herself to run other races and to visit family along the way.

Describe one way that the nominee has helped others "run for the fun of it".

She inspired her family who also were not runners to train and run with her and to carry on Jim's passion for running. The tradition of running the WRM has become an important weekend for family and friends and they have Celia to thank for that.

List examples of at least one of the following: the nominee's involvement in nature preservation/appreciation, positive attitude, storytelling traditions.

She ran the NYC marathon to visit a cousin a few years ago. She runs the Grandma's Marathon in Duluth, Minnesota so she can visit her husband's side of the family. She packed a bag and hiked the Appalachia Trail last year to spend a few weeks with Mother Nature. At 61 years old her goal is always the same – finish the race, while smiling. It's inspiring to see her find peace and joy in running, and it's contagious to the people around her.

Explain why this nominee would be a deserving candidate for the Al Clark Memorial Award.

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Nominated by: Michael Erickson

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