

Ella T. Grasso

Former Connecticut Governor Ella T. Grasso was born on May 10, 1919, in Windsor Locks, Connecticut. She graduated from Mount Holyoke College with honors in 1940 and received an M.A. in sociology in 1942.

Grasso was elected to the state legislature in 1952 and again in 1954. In 1958, she was appointed Connecticut Secretary of State. She was elected to the United States House of Representatives from Connecticut's 6th District in 1970.

In 1974, Grasso made history when she was elected governor, becoming the first woman to serve that post in Connecticut and the first woman to hold a state governorship in her own right. She resigned from office on December 31, 1980, due to illness, and died on February 5, 1981.

On October 9, 1981, she was posthumously awarded the Medal of Freedom from President Ronald Reagan. In 1993, Grasso was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in Seneca Falls, New York.

To see, to recognize, to understand – that is the spirit of humanism. It will teach you how to live and how to bring life to the world about you.

Ella T. Grasso

The Ella T. Grasso Distinguished Service Award

The Ella T. Grasso Distinguished Service Award recognizes leaders who have made contributions towards advancing women's rights and issues of gender equity as demonstrated by the legacy of former Connecticut State Governor Ella T. Grasso.

Three levels of nominations are offered, one for each level of nominee as stated below:

1. Eastern Connecticut State University Student Service Award
2. Eastern Connecticut State University Faculty/Staff Award
3. Eastern Connecticut State University Community Neighbor Award

To be eligible for the award, nominees should demonstrate at least one of the following criteria:

1. An overall commitment to the advancement of women's rights and issues of gender equality.
2. Leadership in a program(s) serving the needs of women by organizing or empowering women, advocating on behalf of women's rights, or outreach to women in need of supportive services.
3. Initiative in planning and implementing programs to broaden the representation of women at various levels of society including socioeconomic, political, medical/health sectors, the fine arts, and social sciences.
4. Actively promotes justice and peace locally, regionally or globally.

Nominations are invited from the Eastern Connecticut State University community and the general public. Nominations must be received by Thursday, March 8, 2018.

The award ceremony and reception will take place on Wednesday, March 28, 2018 in the Student Center, Theatre at 3 p.m.

For additional information regarding the ceremony please call Starsheemar Byrum at (860) 465-4313 or email byrums@easternct.edu.

Nomination Form

Part I: Nominee Information

(Please attach a separate sheet for this section)

Nominee: _____

Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Part II: Nominator Information

Nominator: _____

Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Evening Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Part III: Statement of Nomination

(Please attach a separate sheet for this section and highlight how the nominee meets at least one of the criteria stated below)

1. An overall commitment to the advancement of women's rights and issues of gender inequality.
2. Leadership in a program(s) serving the needs of women by organizing or empowering women, advocating on behalf of women's rights, or outreach to women in need of supportive services.
3. Demonstrated initiative in planning and implementing programs to broaden the representation of women at various levels of society including socioeconomic, political, medical/health sectors, the fine arts, and social sciences.

Please return the completed nomination packets to:

Starsheemar Byrum, Women's Center
Student Center, Room 116
Eastern Connecticut State University
83 Windham Street
Willimantic, CT 06226
byrums@easternct.edu

Due: Thursday, March 8, 2018



It is not enough to profess faith in the democratic process; we must do something about it.

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Division of Student Affairs

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*Announcing the Seventh Annual
Ella T. Grasso
Distinguished Service Award & Awards Ceremony*



*Nomination Deadline
Thursday, March 8, 2018*



EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY