

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Nominations Now Open for 2026 Bill Daniels Ethical Leadership Award

*Deadline to Nominate is July 31st, 2026, Award Winner to be Featured at the Governor's Business Forum*

**CHEYENNE, Wyo.** — The Wyoming Business Alliance/Wyoming Heritage Foundation, in partnership with the Daniels Fund and the University of Wyoming College of Business, is excited to announce that nominations are now open for the 2026 Bill Daniels Ethical Leadership Award.

The award honors Wyoming business leaders who represent the very best in ethical leadership — individuals who have demonstrated a steadfast commitment to integrity in their professional lives, their communities, and their personal conduct.

To nominate a deserving individual, complete the nomination form at [wyomingbusinessalliance.com/ethicalleadership26](http://wyomingbusinessalliance.com/ethicalleadership26) Nominations must be submitted to WBA President Renny MacKay, [rmackay@wyoba.com](mailto:rmackay@wyoba.com) no later than **July 31, 2026**.

### Award Announcement at the Governor's Business Forum

The 2026 Bill Daniels Ethical Leadership Award winner will be announced at the Governor's Business Forum, themed "***Forging the Wyoming Way.***" The Forum will be held **November 11–13, 2026** at the Little America Hotel and Resort in Cheyenne. The Wyoming Business Alliance/Wyoming Heritage Foundation hosts the annual Governor's Business Forum, which brings together Wyoming's top business, government, education, and civic leaders.

### About the Award

The Bill Daniels Ethical Leadership Award is a joint initiative of the Daniels Fund, the University of Wyoming College of Business, and the Wyoming Business Alliance/Wyoming Heritage Foundation. It was established to recognize Wyoming citizens who embody the ethical leadership principles of Bill Daniels — a cable-television pioneer who launched his professional career in Casper and built a legacy defined by integrity and service.

Eligible nominees are Wyoming citizens who exemplify the ethical leadership principles of Bill Daniels through their professional achievements, personal character, and service to their communities. Nominees may come from the business, nonprofit, education, government, or civic sectors.

Nominees are evaluated on the following Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative principles:

- **Integrity:** Act with honesty in all situations.
- **Trust:** Build trust in all stakeholder relationships.
- **Accountability:** Accept responsibility for all decisions.
- **Transparency:** Maintain open and truthful communications.
- **Fairness:** Engage in fair competition and create equitable and just relationships.
- **Respect:** Honor the rights, freedoms, views and property of others.
- **Rule of Law:** Comply with the spirit and intent of laws and regulations.
- **Viability:** Create long-term value for all relevant stakeholders.

### **Past Recipients**

The inaugural award was presented in 2016 to Powell's **Dave Bonner**, honored for his five decades as a respected newspaper publisher, his leadership as president of the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees, and his selfless service as a state legislator and elected official.

The most recent recipient, **retired Wyoming Supreme Court Justice Marilyn Kite**, received the 2024 award in recognition of her distinguished legal career and lifelong dedication to justice, fairness, and public service in Wyoming.

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### **Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative at the University of Wyoming**

The University of Wyoming College of Business launched its Business Ethics program in 2005. Endowed by the Daniels Fund, the program advances principle-based leadership and ethics in Wyoming and beyond. Visit [uwyo.edu/ethics](http://uwyo.edu/ethics).

### **About the Wyoming Business Alliance**

The Wyoming Business Alliance serves as the state's premier business advocate, with a mission to promote a growing economy by connecting business leaders from across Wyoming, representing business interests and issues, and partnering with key organizations and trade associations. For more information, visit [wyomingbusinessalliance.com](http://wyomingbusinessalliance.com).

## **About the Daniels Fund**

The Daniels Fund is a private charitable foundation dedicated to making life better for the people of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming through its grants, scholarship, and ethics programs. The Daniels Fund was established in 2000 with a \$1 billion bequest from Bill Daniels, a cable television pioneer known for his unwavering commitment to ethics and integrity. Throughout its history, the Fund has given more than \$1.5 billion, including grants to nearly 6,000 nonprofit partners, higher education scholarships to 5,600 students, and the launch of the National Ethics Case Competition. Visit [DanielsFund.org](https://DanielsFund.org) to learn more.

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