



Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library

June 19, 2023

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library Recipient of Dakota OutRight's Champion Business Award

WHAT: On Saturday, June 17th during Dakota OutRight's 2023 Capital Pride at the Bismarck State College Energy Center, Dakota OutRight recognized Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library as this year's Champion Business Award recipient. The award recognizes outstanding work throughout North Dakota with respect to and in partnership with the LGBTQ+ communities in our state. Dakota OutRight serves the LGBTQIA2S+ community of central and western North Dakota through connection, visibility, and advocacy.

The library received the award for its many services and welcoming atmosphere available to Bismarck/Burleigh County residents. The library provides an equal, high standard of service in a safe gathering space for all citizens with respect and appreciation for our BIPOC and LGBTQ communities.

"We are humbled and honored to be named Dakota OutRight's 2023 Champion Business," said Library Director Christine Kujawa. "Most rewarding are the shared stories of appreciation from patrons, knowing that the library welcomes all. We provide free services to anyone who comes to us seeking assistance, a mainstay for our community."

In 2022, the City of Bismarck's Human Relations Committee and Commission recognized the library as their 2021 Humanitarian Award recipient for leadership in the area of human rights.

WHEN: Saturday, June 17, 2023

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: **CHRISTINE KUJAWA, LIBRARY DIRECTOR**
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