



## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

### Second Annual Bayard Rustin Service Award Presented by the Cambridge GLBT Commission

**Bayard Rustin** (March 17, 1912 – August 24, 1987) was an American, non-violent activist for social change. Bayard was a pacifist in the face of war, openly gay in a time of sexual repression and oppression, an African-American Quaker, a labor and human rights activist. He is credited as the chief organizer of the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.



The Bayard Rustin Service Award is bestowed to a member of the GLBT community of color and/or ally who has worked to advance the civil rights of all.

The Bayard Rustin Service Award was established by the City Council in 2010 (see official text below) and was bestowed posthumously to Peter Gomes in 2011.

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#### *Ordinance Passed In City Council August 2, 2010*

- WHEREAS: Cambridge has long been an open and inclusive community that celebrates the diversity of all who live and work here; and
- WHEREAS: Cambridge has been at the forefront of acceptance and tolerance for both African Americans and the GLBT community and has resolved, ordered, legislated, and celebrated the gains in the Civil Rights Movement which have been individually and jointly undertaken; and
- WHEREAS: Bayard Rustin, a champion of civil rights for all, would no doubt acknowledge the foundational strength of the African American civil rights struggle upon which the GLBT community has proudly stood and continued to raise local and global consciousness of a movement that will someday provide civil rights to all with utter sameness regardless of any difference; and
- WHEREAS: Each year various awards are given at the GLBT Pride Brunch hosted by the GLBT Commission and the Office of the Mayor to acknowledge the activism and actions of individuals and groups that have advanced the GLBT cause; and
- WHEREAS: Fundamental reasons remain to bring together African Americans and the GLBT community as they continue to lead our nation toward ultimate civil rights; now therefore be it
- ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to support the Office of the Mayor in appointing a committee of individuals to commence in June of 2011 an annual Bayard Rustin Civil Rights Award, to bestow upon a member of the GLBT community of color and/or ally who has done outstanding work on behalf of advancing the civil rights of all.

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The mission of the **Cambridge GLBT Commission** is to advocate for a culture of respect and to monitor progress toward equality of all persons with regard to sexual orientation and gender identity. We are committed to promoting and monitoring policies and practices that have a positive effect on the health, welfare, and safety of all persons who live, visit, or work in the City of Cambridge with regard to sexual orientation and gender identity.



