

# THE FREEDOM AWARDS 2019



## ABOUT US

The Initiative for Equal Rights (TIERS) is a Nigeria-based registered non-for-profit organisation working to create a society where human rights are guaranteed regardless of status, identity, orientation and affiliation. We exist to protect, uphold and promote the rights and humanity of all Nigerians through advocacy, empowerment, education, and the provision of safe platforms of convergence. We were founded in 2005 as a response to the discrimination and marginalisation of sexual minorities in both HIV prevention programming, human rights protection, advocacy, and mainstream human rights work.

**The Freedom Awards** were created to honour individuals, organizations, agencies or brands who are working to create an equal society free from discrimination and marginalization. The first Freedom Awards and Gala event will be held in 2019. With this event, we hope to bring together individuals, organizations and other partners who are working together and separately to champion the cause for equality and human rights in their various fields in Nigeria. It will also be a platform for connecting, networking and celebrating the successes made so far.

## HOW ARE THE AWARDEES CHOSEN?

For some categories, the awardees are selected by a team of independent activists. For other categories, there is an open nomination process with nominations accepted from the public. These nominations are then vetted by the independent team of activists, and the awardees selected. Awardees are not selected based on highest numbers of nominations. Monetary gifts are not given to awardees. Nominated persons may be contacted to present more

information. The final awardees will be notified before the event. Members of staff of The Initiative for Equal Rights and their partners, and families are not eligible for nomination.

The Initiative for Equal Rights and its team of independent activists reserve all rights in the awarding of Freedom awards. An award may be revoked if the information received by the TIERS regarding the nominee was later found to be fraudulent or incorrect.