



**ABLE Award
City of Brookings
Carnegie Library**

The City of Brookings, and in conjunction the Brookings Arts Council, are being recognized for rehabilitation work on the Brookings Community Cultural Center and is the chosen recipient of the 2018 A.B.L.E. (Ability, Belief, Leadership and Effort to Achieve Access For All) Award presented by the Brookings Committee for People who have Disabilities.

The A.B.L.E. Award (Ability, Belief, Leadership and Equality to Achieve Access for All) is an annual award program designed to recognize the outstanding commitment of a business or public entity in fulfilling the goals of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The building located at 524 4th Street served as the Carnegie Library until 1976 and is now home to the Brookings Arts Council. Built in 1914, it is on the National Register of Historic Places and mixes historic charm with necessary updates to ensure the space is functional and welcoming to serve the public.

In 2017, the building underwent a complete renovation that included the rehabilitation of an existing bathroom into an ADA compliant, accessible family restroom. This addition to the building brings significant value to the space as it fosters the Brookings Arts Council's mission of providing a welcoming space for all individuals to make community connections through participation in and access to the arts. These changes undertaken by the City of Brookings are commended for the continued effort to support inclusion for all individuals through the successful renovation of this space to enhance public accessibility, while preserving the historic value of the building.

It is the Committee's intention to highlight the efforts of an outstanding business or entity, which in turn may motivate others to provide improved accessibility to goods, services and recreational opportunities. Since 1996, there have been 78 nominees for the A.B.L.E. Award.