

BIG O!

EXCELLENCE

AWARDS



BIG O! EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The **Big O! Excellence Awards** recognize the contributions of Greater Omaha individuals and businesses to our business community. These awards support the Greater Omaha Chamber's goal of providing visibility and recognition opportunities to member businesses.

Individuals or businesses can be nominated for the following awards: Business Woman of the Year, Corporate Citizen of the Year, Innovator of the Year, Milestone, Minority Business of the Year and Nonprofit of the Year. In addition, the Small Business of the Year Award recipient will be selected from the previous year's Small Business of the Month Award recipients.

Companies and individuals may nominate themselves or be nominated by others. Submissions will be reviewed by a committee of Chamber volunteers to select award winners.

Sponsored by



Nomination deadline is Feb. 3, 2012.

Submit nominations by:

Mail

Greater Omaha Chamber
Big O! Excellence Awards
1301 Harney St., Omaha, NE 68102

Fax

402-346-7050

Email

nominations@OmahaChamber.org

Online

OmahaChamber.org/ExcellenceAwards

Top nominees will be notified and invited to attend the 2012 Big O! Excellence Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, May 15, from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Ramada Plaza Omaha Hotel & Convention Center.

Award recipients will be announced at the Luncheon.

For additional information or questions, contact Larry Gomez, director of small business services, at 402-978-7925 or lgomez@OmahaChamber.org, or visit OmahaChamber.org/ExcellenceAwards.

Please check the box for award categories you wish to nominate a business/person.

All nominated businesses must be Greater Omaha Chamber members based in the Greater Omaha metropolitan area — Cass, Douglas, Sarpy, Saunders and Washington counties in Nebraska and Harrison, Mills and Pottawattamie counties in Iowa.

Business Woman of the Year Award

Honors exceptional women leaders who have excelled in their chosen field, devoted energy to strengthening the community and developed others.

Criteria

- Examples of demonstrated excellence in achieving professional success.
- Description of leadership impact (professionally and/or civic).

Corporate Citizen of the Year Award

Recognizes an organization whose philosophy of giving has made a significant impact on the Omaha metropolitan community's health and well-being. The award encourages and supports corporate social responsibility.

Criteria

- Example(s) of the impact of community service that occurred during the calendar year 2011, organized at the corporate level. (The strategy and results of the company efforts, not a list of individual employee volunteerism.)

Innovator of the Year Award

Recognizes an individual or an organization that has both envisioned and executed on an opportunity. The award acknowledges innovators who are creatively making a difference and likely to be leaders in their field.

Criteria

- Description of the innovation and outcomes associated with it.

Milestone Award

Honors a long-standing business that is celebrating 25, 50, 75, 100, 125, 150 years in business.

Criteria

- Member business celebrating a milestone anniversary in 2012.

Minority Business of the Year Award

Recognizes a successful ethnic minority-owned business/organization that has an operating history of at least three years and has demonstrated business growth and contributions to the community.

Nonprofit of the Year Award

Recognizes an organization for its excellent stewardship of resources and exceptional outcomes. Nominated organization must be fully accredited as a 501(c) (3) with operating history of at least three years and governed by a volunteer board of directors.

Criteria

- Examples of demonstrated community/client impact, financial stability, good stewardship of donor dollars and commitment to its organizational mission.

The following award will also be presented at the Luncheon. The selection committee will choose the winner from the previous year's Small Business of the Month Award recipients.

Small Business of the Year Award

Recognizes a business with 50 employees or less for their commitment to strong customer service and community involvement.

You are encouraged to submit a company to be considered for a 2012 Small Business of the Month Award by completing the nomination form found at OmahaChamber.org/SmallBusinessoftheMonth.

