

celebrate business

LINCOLN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

NOMINATION FOR:

(Please check one category. For additional nomination forms, you may photocopy this form or visit www.LCOC.com to nominate online.)

- Cornerstone Award
- Small Business Of The Year*
- Manufacturer of the Year
- Green Business of the Year
- Woman-Owned Business
- Tourism Development Award
- Entrepreneurial Spirit Award

(*Please note special instructions at the bottom of this form.)

Company Nominated: _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

Website: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

Name of Top Executive: _____

Title: _____

Brief Description of Business:

Year Founded: _____ Number of Employees: _____

Based upon the attached criteria, please submit a paragraph telling us why you believe this company should be given the award: (Use the back side of the nomination form if more space is needed.)

* information regarding small business of the year nominees:
Please indicate the company's revenues (to the nearest \$1,000) for

2008: _____ 2007: _____

2006: _____

Note: All revenue figures submitted will be held in strictest confidence by the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce and by BKD, LLP, Certified Public Accountants.

NOMINATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2009

General Selection Criteria

Cornerstone Award

The Cornerstone Award is intended to honor that business which best demonstrates leadership in the community. The award recognizes the entrepreneurial spirit of those who take risks and make the investment in time and money to grow business firms in our city. The Cornerstone Award is intended to honor the outstanding business of the year in Lincoln. It is not restricted in terms of size or ownership beyond the criteria provided. The Cornerstone Award winner can be a winner in another category as well.

The potential candidates must meet the following criteria:

- A for-profit enterprise
- Principal ownership in Lincoln or have a substantial local presence
- A leader in providing innovative customer driven services
- Civic leadership must be shown through the giving of time, talent and resources to the betterment of Lincoln
- Provide an atmosphere which gives their employees maximum opportunities for growth

Small Business Of The Year Award

The Small Business of the Year Award is intended to honor that business which best exemplifies the spirit of free enterprise in Lincoln. The winner should provide an example of the rewards offered by the free enterprise system by risk taking, being innovative and strengthening community spirit.

Eligible firms must meet the following criteria:

- A for-profit enterprise
- Employ 50 or fewer full time equivalent employees
- Principal ownership in Lincoln or have a substantial local presence in the community
- Innovative and customer driven
- Civic leadership must be shown through the giving of time, talent and resources to the betterment of Lincoln
- Provide an atmosphere which gives their employees maximum opportunities for growth
- Must show a minimum of 15% increase in annual gross sales or income
- BKD, LLP, CPAs reserves the right to make the final determination of comparable revenue levels



Outstanding Woman-Owned Business Award

The Outstanding Woman-Owned Business honored should provide an example of the opportunities available through the efforts of entrepreneurial women by their participation in the free enterprise system. Winners are being honored for their exhibition of business and community leadership.

Eligible firms must meet the following criteria:

- A woman or group of women must own 51% or more of the business and be actively involved in the day-to-day operations of the firm
- A for-profit enterprise located in Lincoln
- Principal ownership in Lincoln or have a substantial local presence in the community
- A leader in providing innovative customer driven service
- Civic leadership must be shown through the giving of time, talent and resources to the betterment of Lincoln
- Provide an atmosphere which gives their employees maximum opportunities for growth

Manufacturer of the Year

The Manufacturer of the Year award serves to bring attention to Lincoln's manufacturing community and the contributions made to Lincoln both economically and socially. An award of excellence will be presented to one outstanding manufacturing company that demonstrates forward thinking in product development – utilizing technology to revolutionize the manufacturing industry. Honorees should exhibit leadership and a strong commitment to the city of Lincoln. Companies may nominate themselves or another manufacturer for this honor through submission of an application covering the sections outlined in the form.

Eligible firms must meet the following criteria:

- Include a brief company history
 - Describe major products that are manufactured at the facility – highlighting products in the last three years that focus on innovation and technological advances
 - Give an overview of the process and operational excellence – commitment to continuous improvement, utilization on technology
 - Describe your management philosophy and your ability to find creative solutions to challenges that raise or enhance the industry standard
 - How has this company contributed to the overall community
 - How has the nominee demonstrated support and dedication to the manufacturing community
 - Additional information - supplemental materials (annual reports, brochures, testimonials, news clips, etc.)
-

Green Business of the Year Award

The Green Business of the Year Award is designed to honor a business that meets high environmental standards and has gone beyond local state and federal environmental regulations to create an environmentally friendly business. The award recognizes outstanding achievement in pollution prevention, waste reduction and recycling activities. This award is given to businesses who adopt principles and practices that improve the quality of life for their customers, employees, communities and the environment.

Eligible firms must:

- Be in compliance with all local, state and federal environmental regulations
- Have an established waste reduction, pollution prevention and/or recycling program in place
- Have reduced the amount of waste sent to the land-fill and/or
- Have reduced and or eliminated the use of toxic chemicals in processes and/or
- Have prevented pollution and waste from being created.
- Create and more environmentally sustainable economy

Tourism Development Award

The Tourism Development Award recognizes the person or attraction that has exemplified creativity in the development of the tourism industry.

Eligible firms must meet the following criteria:

- Leader in the Industry
- Demonstrated vision and commitment in developing the tourism industry
- Demonstrates a positive economic impact on the community

Entrepreneurial Spirit Award

The Entrepreneurial Spirit Award recognizes the person or company that has exemplified creativity in the development of enterprise in Lincoln.

Eligible firms must:

- The entrepreneur has an enthusiastic vision, the driving force of an enterprise
- Demonstrate a clear commitment to doing business in Lincoln
- Produce a positive impact on the local economy
- Either export goods or services outside Lincoln or provides a viable alternative to importing goods or services into Lincoln



celebrate
business

MAIL OR FAX NOMINATIONS TO:

Lincoln Chamber of Commerce
Attention: Celebrate Business Nomination
P.O. Box 83006
Lincoln, NE 68501-3006
Fax: (402) 436-2360

For questions, contact Jaime Henning at 402-436-2366 or jaimehenning@lccoc.com

NOMINATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2009