



ENTREPRENEURIAL EXCELLENCE *Award*

Call for Nominations for 2010 Awards

Dear Member,

The Greater Reading Entrepreneurial Excellence Awards recognize the exceptional sole-proprietors and small business owners in our business community who put everything on the line and turn an idea into a successful, sustainable enterprise that generates economic gain for themselves and Greater Reading.

The Chamber thanks **Windstream Communications** for sponsoring this award.

Who is eligible for this recognition? Entrepreneurs to be considered for this award include sole-proprietors, partnerships and small business owners who assume the risks of business, as well as multi-generational CEO's who have taken the family business to the next level.

Qualification Criteria

- A sole-proprietor or small business with fifteen or fewer employees
- All organizations must have been in business for three years or longer
- An organization that does not qualify for the Greater Reading Top Businesses Award

How are winners chosen? An independent panel of judges will evaluate each nominated business for an innovative product or service idea, creative marketing plan and community involvement. Other considerations may include employment growth, contribution to quality of life and dealing with adversity. A proprietary formula for scoring points in each category will determine the order for conferring the awards.

How will the awards be presented? Entrepreneurs who score the most points will be recognized in news print, with special recognition of the top two, at the Annual Dinner on Thursday, May 13, 2010.

Does this describe you or someone you know? Nominate yourself or an entrepreneur you know by logging onto GreaterReadingChamber.org to download an entry form. March 31 is the deadline for entry. Deadline is firm, no exceptions.

Onward & upward,

Ellen Horan
President & CEO

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT JENNIFER LEINBACH,
GREATER READING - KIZ COORDINATOR AT JLEINBACH@GREATERREADINGCHAMBER.ORG
OR CALL 610.376.6766.

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2010 AWARD SPONSOR



Nominee Name _____

Title _____

Company name _____

Are you a member of the Greater Reading Chamber of Commerce & Industry? – Yes / No

Business Address _____

Business Phone _____ Business Fax _____

Email _____ Website _____

Number of years company has been in business (*must be at least 3 years to apply*): _____

What was your business' gross revenue for last 3 fiscal years? – *check box that applies*

< \$1 million (annual) > \$1 million (annual)

(Important note: if revenue exceeded \$1 million for all three fiscal years, you do not meet the criteria for this award. Please enter a nomination for the Greater Reading Top Businesses.) *Please include a professional reference.*

ESSAY OF SUPPORT:

Separate document - *Limit collective responses to no more than three typed pages.*

Please answer all the questions as succinctly and as completely as possible. Do not skip any question.

- Innovation of product or service offered – illustrations of creativity and imagination.
- Creative marketing – explain your marketing strategy and provide examples of creative approaches.
- Contributions to the community – personal time spent, number of years involved with each organization, sponsorships, incentives for employees to volunteer.
- How does your company contribute to the local economy and quality of life?
- Response to adversity – what was the problem, what was done, what was the outcome?
- Number of employees or employee growth over past 3 years. Please indicate growth in both part-time and full-time employees.

Entries may be submitted electronically to jleinbach@GreaterReadingChamber.org, faxed to the Chamber at 610.376.4135, or mailed to the Greater Reading Chamber of Commerce & Industry, 601 Penn Street, Suite 101, Reading, PA 19601. Essay of Support must be typed and not exceed 3 pages. No collateral material will be reviewed or scored. DEADLINE FOR RECEIVING ENTRIES IS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31. Questions regarding this award may be directed to Jennifer Leinbach at jleinbach@GreaterReadingChamber.org or 610.376.6766, ext 102.